

the johns hopkins NEWS-LETTER

PUBLISHED SINCE 1896 BY THE STUDENTS OF JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY

VOLUME CXXI, ISSUE X

WWW.JHUNewsLETTER.COM

NOVEMBER 10, 2016



We all got it wrong.

By **NEHAL AGGARWAL**
For The News-Letter

President-elect Donald J. Trump's unlikely victory early Wednesday morning stunned people across the nation and around the world. The results shocked Hopkins students, many of whom expressed frustration and fear.

In response, students spray painted the mural boards outside of Brody Learning Commons

with phrases including 'Grab them by the p*ssy'; 'Do I deserve rights?'; 'Mourn 4 the USA'; 'Racism Wins'; and 'Never Trump.'

Outside the Fresh Food Cafe (FFC), the Blue Jay statue was painted with Democratic nominee Hillary Clinton's campaign logo and the words 'F**k Trump' superimposed. Other students sported Trump apparel on campus.

The Republican Party kept control of Congress, winning a majority in the Senate and the House of

Representatives.

Co-president of Hopkins Feminists Linda Horn worried that Trump's victory, which depended on the white vote, could threaten marginalized communities in the United States.

"People are processing, and with processing comes some shock, sadness, anger and that's okay," she said. "It's also an issue about race and people who are racist and deeply xenophobic. Of

SEE ELECTION, PAGE A4

President Daniels defends University policies

By **ROLLIN HU**
& **KELSEY KO**
News & Features Editors

In an interview with *The News-Letter* on Friday, University President Ronald J. Daniels addressed student concerns surrounding mental health, diversity and race, the University's role in Baltimore and the ongoing Humanities Center conflict.

Mental Health

Daniels offered a two-pronged approach to address mental health at Hopkins that begins with maintaining a functional Counseling Center. He noted that over the past year, the vacant positions in the Center have been filled in an effort to reduce the wait time for first appointments.

"Having a strong, responsive and effective counseling service is critical, and having students be aware of the presence and availability of those services is very important," Daniels said. "It is important that there is no sense of stigma or embarrassment on the part of our students in accessing those services."

Also, Daniels hopes

to create a less stressful environment at Hopkins. He described the progressive efforts of the Task Force for Mental Health and Well-Being, created last spring to research the status of mental health on campus and offer policy recommendations.

"I'm really looking forward to seeing their recommendations as an opportunity to stand back and think about ways we can provide counseling support to students so that it's not just through the prism of the Counseling Center," Daniels said. "Rather, you're doing things on campus to reduce anxiety, create a stronger sense of health and well-being and increase student resilience to the pressures, expectations and anxieties."

Daniels will have the final decision on whether to enforce the recommendations provided by the Task Force.

"I will look very closely at them, take them seriously, and where it's appropriate to implement the recommendations, where I feel that's the right thing to do, we will do so," Daniels said. "Some of the recommendations may have funding

issues. It's going to take some time to ultimately to fully implement them. But from my perspective, striking a task force of this character comes with a presumption of action."

Diversity & Race

The University released its updated version of the Roadmap on Diversity and Inclusion, last Friday. Daniels stressed that the document addresses student concerns comprehensively.

"What we thought was really important was to take the time and care to have a fulsome deliberative process and really be able to see all of the aspects of these issues of race and diversity at Hopkins," Daniels said.

A major criticism of the previous Roadmap released last spring was the lack of University accountability for its outlined goals.

Daniels responded to these critiques by pointing to the new Roadmap's appendix, where there is a timeline that outlines how the University's diversity programs have progressed.

He specifically referred to the Report on Faculty

Composition released earlier this fall. The report surveyed the proportion of underrepresented minorities and women faculty across the nine departmental divisions of the University. He stated that this report will be released every two years to track the changes in faculty diversity.

"If we are not making progress, it won't take 15 years to determine that progress has not yet been made," Daniels said. "It'll be apparent in two years' time and I think that our commitment to regular reporting transparency and accountability is part of the environment that we believe will be most conducive to continuing change and progress."

He stressed that University's Board of Trustees, the school's highest governing body, reviewed the Roadmap on multiple occasions and endorsed its initiatives. Daniels said this increased the document's validity and shows the University's accountability.

Students criticized the initial Roadmap on Diversity and Inclusion by pointing out that it failed to use the word "racism"

SEE DANIELS, PAGE A5

Students stand with pipeline protestors

By **PETER JI**
Senior Staff Writer

The Dakota Access Pipeline (DAPL) project has caused significant controversy since August. Clashes between fracking firm Energy Transfer Partners, Native Americans, environmentalists and police have erupted in North Dakota.

A movement called #NoDAPL has since emerged, with protestors led by the Standing Rock Sioux tribe arguing that the project encroaches on Native American sacred grounds and would threaten the local environment.

The project, which aims to construct a 30-inch diameter pipeline that is over 1,000 miles long, will transport crude

oil from the Bakken and Three Forks Shale formations in North Dakota to oil refineries in Illinois and other states.

The current route passes within a mile of the Standing Rock Indian Reservation, but not on land the tribe formally owns. Both peaceful and violent protests have occurred at a camp along the pipeline's path as

part of the #NoDAPL movement.

The Hopkins community has expressed nearly unanimous support for the protestors.

Sociology graduate student Valentina Dallona, who studies labor

and social movements, believes that protestors view DAPL as a government attempt to infringe on indigenous rights.

SEE DAPL, PAGE A6

"[DAPL] intrudes upon their culture, and it's such a violation of their basic human rights."

— VANHI-BERNARD
VISHALA,
SOPHOMORE

NEWS & FEATURES

Huang talks social change in the workplace

By JACOB TOOK
For *The News-Letter*

Chieh Huang, a Hopkins alumnus and the founder of online wholesale retailer Boxed, spoke Thursday about how better work policies seed social change. The Inter-Asian Council (IAC) sponsored the event.

Huang related the story of his company's exponential growth, which initially began in his garage only three years ago. Since then, Boxed has become a national corporation with millions of users.

In his talk, Huang stressed the importance of individual stories. He identified his own past experiences, growing up in poverty as the child of immigrant parents, as having allowed him to create stronger connections with his employees and consumers.

In an effort to improve workplace benefits, Boxed announced that it would fund college education for the children of its employees. This policy prompted a stir in the business industry. Huang explained that it was important for him to build a relationship with his employees so that he had a better understanding of their struggles and could better direct his resources to help them.

Huang cited a conversation he had with his female workers about the pink tax, as an example of collaborative dialogue. The pink tax is the recognized inflation of products marketed to women as opposed to men and the taxation of feminine care products as a luxury item.

Huang took this information and made policies to mediate the inflation in Boxed's prices of products influenced by the pink tax that he hopes will eventually influence other companies.

Ph.D. student David Tian praised Huang's efforts and his ability to influence other companies and industry standards.

"There's a contagion effect for leaders," he said. "If one leader acts in this way, other leaders will see that too, and it will in turn influence them."

Freshman Stanley Chu spoke about the obligation students have to facilitate change.

"There's a responsibility within us as individuals," Chu said. "People put a lot of investments specifically in us, so we have more power to engage in social change than people who don't have those opportunities. There's a certain amount of responsibility we have as individuals, as members of society, to in-



COURTESY OF JACOB TOOK

Huang emphasized the importance of building ties in the workplace.

vest back into our society."

Freshman Alan Fang echoed these sentiments, drawing on the privileges Hopkins students receive.

"There are people who haven't had the same opportunities as you, and the choices involve dealings and interactions with them," Fang said. "You don't really get that until you leave Hopkins, but it's good to have that in mind as a student here."

Chu spoke about whether Huang's decisions as the leader of Boxed should be implemented in other companies.

"It's important that people who own companies take care of their employees," he said. "Perhaps it shouldn't be expected of them to take care of them to quite that degree, but I think it's important that they care about their employees to some degree."

Fang said that he didn't think it was reasonable to expect larger companies to adopt this model.

"Because his company, particularly his worker base, is much smaller, in a way it's more sustainable," Fang said. "I wouldn't expect giants like Walmart to cover college for all of their employees' kids. I admire his model, but of course it's not something that can easily be applied to all companies."

Chu disagreed, emphasizing the importance of the connection between leader and employees in any business.

"I think it's important to find some sort of engagement between people who own companies and people who might not have as much," Chu said. "Otherwise, I don't think you can effectively lead a company as big as that."

Professor argues for university autonomy

By SARAH Y. KIM
For *The News-Letter*

The Arrighi Center for Global Studies hosted a seminar by George Steinmetz, Charles Tilly Collegiate Professor of Sociology and Germanic Languages and Literatures at the University of Michigan, as part of its seminar series on Practical Ethics, last Friday.

The seminar, titled "Historical Sociology, Ethics, Policy and Politics," focused on the ethics of policy-engaged research. Steinmetz has spent much of his career studying policy-making and the relationship between social science research and state policy around the world.

Steinmetz's argument revolved around the importance of autonomy for universities, particularly for researchers and professors in the social sciences and the humanities.

"I noticed in the announcement for the seminar that the topic for the year was on the capitalist university and the critical pedagogy," Steinmetz said. "I thought it might be interesting to try and connect these two things. So I decided to try and situate American sociology and

policy research within an overall model of the American research university."

According to Steinmetz, the work of professors and researchers is not kept separate from the interests of outside actors in the status quo. He believes it's important that universities be more autonomous, separate from businesses, the state and social movements.

"For anyone interested in improving the scientific quality of social science and the critical quality of social science, I think it's an urgent task to resist these kinds of external pressures," he said.

In order to explain this threat, he spent the lecture reflecting on the history of social scientists, autonomy and heteronomy within American universities.

"We need a philosophy of social science in order to distinguish among healthy and pathological conditions for knowledge publication," he said.

While discussing the history of sociology, Steinmetz stated that America was haunted by what he termed the "demon of cameralism."

According to Steinmetz, cameralism was an early modern form of expert policy advice given to European monarchs, cabinets, and princes.

"The American university and its social scientists were less autonomous from capitalist corporations and from the — broadly speaking — field of power than their European counterparts," he said.

Beverly Silver, the chair of the Department of Sociology, elaborated on Steinmetz's argument.

"Professor Steinmetz explained that the connections between sociology and policy-making are not necessarily recent — not products of neoliberalism — but they date back to the origins of the discipline," Silver wrote in an email to *The News-Letter*.

Steinmetz also touched on the difficulty of engaging with social policy research without having an explicit theory of ethics.

Silver explained the significance of this particular seminar, which was part of a series designed to foster discussion on ethical issues faced by universities.

"We thought it was important to discuss the financial and political pressures on the choice of research topics and teaching... including the pressures to make work relevant to corporations and states," she wrote. "Professor George Steinmetz was a perfect choice for a discussion of this topic."

Senior Corey Payne challenged Steinmetz's view that universities should be autonomous from social movements.

"While I tended to agree with him that academia should resist heteronomy with the state and with capital, I find the prospect of building a wall between the university and social movements to be hierarchical and misguided," Payne wrote in an email to *The News-Letter*.

Overall, Payne felt the seminar was a rewarding experience, largely because it allowed for such discussion.

"Seminars like these are one of the best parts of university life," he wrote. "I hope to see more undergraduate students in attendance at future seminars."

New business minor receives mixed student reactions

By MORGAN OME
Layout Editor

The University recently announced that a new business minor will be available to students, beginning in the spring semester of 2017. The Homewood Academic Council approved the new minor earlier this summer.

The new minor exists under the Center for Leadership Education (CLE), within the Whiting School of Engineering (WSE). It is a joint initiative of the WSE, the Krieger School of Arts and Sciences (KSAS) and the Carey Business School (CBS).

The business minor is comprised of five core classes, one elective and two foundational courses. In order to fulfill the minor requirements, students can choose from any of the previously existing CLE courses. Two new courses, Principles of Finance and Operations Management, have also been added in conjunction with the minor.

The business minor is an addition to the three other minors currently offered by the CLE: Accounting and Financial Management, which has been available to students as of fall 2016; Entrepreneurship and Management (E&M); and Marketing and Communications.

Student reactions towards the new minor have been mixed. Junior Hayden Rosenthal, president of the Rho Psi chapter of Alpha Kappa Psi, the co-ed business fraternity, believes that a business minor by itself will not prepare students for their careers.

"You can have a business major and people won't be ready," Rosenthal said. "You need that real experience to be ready for the work world and the business world... I've been told by many people at many different firms that people tend not to care about what minor you have, unless you can

spin it really well."

Rosenthal also noted that many students already choose to pursue the E&M minor.

"People all across campus do the E&M minor. They like the E&M minor," Rosenthal said. "It basically is the business minor already."

However, Rosenthal acknowledged that the University is working to help students further their interests in business.

"With the new business minor, it's a good idea at heart," he said. "It's been a long time coming."

Sophomore Ting Fang, considered switching out of E&M and pursuing the new business minor. After doing some preliminary research, however, Fang decided not to pursue the new business minor because she was not able to see any major distinctions between the two.

"It said on the [information] sheet, that they were going to add more electives because [the business minor] is new," Fang said. "The electives that they have now are basically what you would have taken if you're doing the E&M minor. I didn't see much of a difference, and that's why I'm sticking with E&M."

Similarly, sophomore Jack Karyo, is also more likely to complete the E&M minor because he believed the new business minor was not yet fully developed.

"I was looking into the business minor because it seems like more of a broad field than E&M," Karyo said. "I'm really debating which one of the two I should follow because it would not be worth it to do both. Right now [I'm

leaning toward] E&M because the business minor just doesn't seem worked out enough."

Provost Sunil Kumar, the former dean of the University of Chicago Booth School of Business, explained how the business minor differs from the other minors offered by the CLE.

"The new business minor covers most of the major sub-disciplines within the field of business and therefore is less specialized than the other minors currently offered by the Center for Leadership Education, including the minor in Entrepreneurship and Management," Kumar wrote in an email to *The News-Letter*. "This minor will be attractive to students who are not yet certain where to focus within the broad

disciplines of business, communications, entrepreneurship and leadership."

Vice Dean for Education of the Whiting School of Engineering Edward Scheinerman explained that the University created the minor because it believes that having a background in business will be helpful to many students after graduating.

"I think whatever your education be, whether you're an engineer or a poet, or anybody else, eventually you're going to earn a living," Scheinerman said. "Having an understanding of the world of business is helpful to lots of people, especially folks that are interested in starting their own company or being in a management position. This is not an MBA. But it's enough so that at least students will know what questions

"[E&M] basically is the business minor already."

— HAYDEN

ROSENTHAL,

PRESIDENT OF

ALPHA KAPPA PSI

NEWS & FEATURES

Seniors impart their wisdom at TEDxJHU University updates diversity roadmap



COURTESY OF EDA INCEKARA

Senior Dylan Alvarez urged students to spend time in nature to escape the overflow of information.

By **KAREN WANG**
For *The News-Letter*

TEDxJHU, a student-run organization modeled after the TEDx conferences, held a salon event on Nov. 3 in Bamboo Café.

The event, titled “What They Didn’t Tell You at Orientation,” was geared toward freshmen and featured three senior speakers, Dylan Alvarez, Nadeem Bandealy and Tiffany Onyejiaka, as well as performances by the Octopodes.

Sophomore Victor Evangelista, an event organizer and TEDxJHU member, discussed the process involved with putting on the event.

“It took a good amount of planning,” Evangelista said. “[The speakers for tonight] were nominated by our team members, so from there we get our nominations and as a group we decide who we think is most qualified, what they propose they want to speak on, [and] what’s relatable to the current events.”

The event was well-received by attendees such as freshman Christina Lane.

“I really loved the last speaker, Tiffany,” said Lane. “She made me want to get out there and do something and be an activist.”

TEDxJHU is currently gearing up for their biggest event on March 11.

“[The March 11th event] is our main event, and what we’re most excited for,” said Evangelista. “It usually focuses around Baltimore and Washington, D.C. politicians or public figures that come from a variety of different fields, like public health, business, entrepreneurship.”

**Dylan Alvarez:
Getting Outside**

Dylan Alvarez, a native Floridian, emphasized the importance of exploring outside and breaking out of one’s routine. Homeschooled for many years, Alvarez was surrounded by three different national parks during his adolescence. As a result, he became attuned to nature and having hands-on experiences.

He credited this unconventional upbringing with allowing him more freedom and creativity instead of being confined to the limitations of a traditional classroom and its standards of learning. He stressed the dangers of modern-day overreliance on social media and information flow.

“While the standardized school system carries some fault for [the] unimaginative approach

to learning, I think that 21st century social media carries some blame that is just as constraining,” Alvarez said. “Our generation is fixated on this information flow to try to stay sane. It’s insane. This influx of information creates mental habits that we find comforting, so we become comfortable in this pattern of desensitization from emotions and wonder. Habituation is a distraction from the desensitization.”

Alvarez further emphasized the tendency for people to settle into a comfortable routine and their reluctance to get out of it.

“[It’s] something psychologists call hedonic adaptation. This pattern of neurological response to the same stimuli in our heads, only temporarily spiked before going back to a state of neutrality,” Alvarez said. “This becomes our comfort zone, a treadmill without an off switch.”

To combat and cure this hedonic adaptation, Alvarez highlighted the importance of going outside and spending time in nature.

“I think that getting outside is the best way to break up that monotony, our mental capacity to hold it in, to turn off the hedonic adaption, by immersing ourselves in the simplicity and basic admiration of the outdoors,” said Alvarez. “Passionate emotion is key to passionate moments. Get out and move. Get your hands dirty and hold onto that youthful energy. Whatever activity it is, those moments of unbearable, passionate reverie, those moments that keep us alive and enraptured and focused. That’s enough to keep us uphill of the hedonic treadmill.”

**Nadeem Bandealy:
Facing Uncertainty**

As a freshman, Bandealy wanted to become an investment banker. However, he found himself venturing into new and untried paths throughout his college years before finally deciding to pursue public health. In his talk, Bandealy focused on the feeling of uncertainty as he struggled to find a career path that was the right fit for him, emphasizing the way students can actually capitalize on their doubts.

“I didn’t plan on coming [to Hopkins] and within a few weeks, changing my entire career. It wasn’t in the four-year plan, but that’s what ended up happening,” Bandealy said. “For the first time in my life, I was really uncertain about what the next step

was going to be. It seemed like everyone’s got it all figured out, and I honestly thought I was the only one who didn’t. This feeling of loss festered inside me, and it grew. I felt completely buried in uncertainty, and I didn’t know who was going to pull me out.”

However, Bandealy reaffirmed that this feeling of uncertainty and loss should not be feared. He emphasized that it is a normal part of life, and a stepping stone in the path to finding ourselves.

“The thing with uncertainty is... it’s a normal, natural part of life. It’s going to keep happening to you, again and again and again,” he said. “I argue that it’s a good thing, because it forces you to sit down, and really think about who you are, and who you want to be.”

Taking action, Bandealy argued, was the only way to overcome the fear of uncertainty and to move forward.

“If we want to overcome this [fear], we just need to dive headfirst into the uncertainty. Uncertainty is ironic because it freezes us. It makes us feel stuck. It prevents us from being able to think, from being able to act,” Bandealy said. “But the funny thing about it is that the only way to get out of that pattern is to actually get off the couch and go do something.”

“We need to recognize our fears and reservations and overcome them. Because it’s not about that uncertain, sinking feeling you get in your stomach, and it’s not about that uneasiness you get when you think about what the future might hold. It’s about what you do next.”

**Tiffany Onyejiaka:
Becoming an Activist**

Tiffany Onyejiaka closed the event with a talk centered around being an activist and fighting for social justice. Onyejiaka began with an anecdote of her kindergarten self, adamantly seeking the justice she deserved if another child had done her wrong. Yet, Onyejiaka said, with maturity and age came an increased passivity and tolerance for injustice.

“There is not a day in kindergarten that I was not complaining about some perceived injustice that I thought I was getting,” Onyejiaka said. “We are all born with such a strong sense of justice. But as time progresses, society begins to unravel our desire for equity. Suddenly, when

we get disrespected, instead of being that kid stomping and asking for justice, we become the other kid, the one sitting in the corner, being silent, counting the minutes until a parent picks them up.”

Onyejiaka’s hometown was radically different from Hopkins, and she lived in a much more liberal and progressive environment. She shared her first direct encounter with racism at Hopkins, as well as the feeling of misplacement, even going so far as to consider transferring to another school during the fall semester of her freshman year.

“Coming to Hopkins was a culture shock because it was one of the first times I realized that I was going to face racism [and] sexism here, and I was going to learn how to deal with it,” Onyejiaka said. “One of the most jarring episodes of my life was freshman year. This boy in my dorm posted on Facebook that he thought black girls were ugly. My first instinct was that he had been hacked. I couldn’t believe that someone who lived just a couple doors away from me could spew something so hateful.”

In an attempt to instigate change within the Hopkins community, Onyejiaka spoke about joining the Black Students Union (BSU) and taking classes with Floyd Hayes, a senior lecturer and coordinator of programs and undergraduate studies in the Center for Africana Studies.

“Sophomore year, I joined the executive board of Black Students Union, and it taught me that if someone is doing something indirectly or directly that affects you, it doesn’t matter what their pay rate is, what their role is, where they come from; You can tell them what they’re doing is wrong. And I learned if you make your voice large enough, people will listen,” Onyejiaka said.

“Something [Dr. Hayes] always trusted to us is the power that college students have. There are so many structures in our institutions that would not be here if our predecessors hadn’t paved the way to that,” Onyejiaka continued. “If enough of you guys banded together and said to administration ‘this is what we want,’ things could actually happen, and I think that’s a power that a lot of us forget we have but we all do retain.”

Onyejiaka defined activism as the pursuit of, and the fight for, the respect that every human being deserves.

“I think the core aspect of [activism] is the realization that if you are breathing, you are a human being, and that you deserve respect in every aspect of your life,” she said. “That means that no one ever has the right to put limitations on your achievements. No one has the right to ever invalidate aspects of your identity. If something upsets you, you cannot accept the status quo. You cannot be apathetic... It’s okay to love yourself so much you will not accept any disrespect for yourself, or a community you belong to. That’s a really beautiful thing to have.”

By **ROLLIN HU**
News & Features Editor

The University released an updated version of the Roadmap on Diversity and Inclusion last Friday. While much of the descriptive information in the new Roadmap is the same as the initial version published last spring, the new version expands on diversity programs and initiatives, with an increased emphasis on accountability.

The initial Roadmap was created partially in response to the BSU protest of fall 2015 and the efforts of University President Ronald J. Daniels. Since the Roadmap’s initial publication, the University has been incorporating criticism and feedback from a wide range of groups.

In the opening letter of the new Roadmap, Daniels stresses that the initial document’s aim was not to be a conclusive solution to diversity, but to serve as a guide.

“The JHU Roadmap on Diversity and Inclusion does not attempt to answer every question before us,” Daniels wrote. “Rather, it is intended to point us, urgently, toward a place where individuals will thrive on their own terms and where we foster the kind of academic pursuit that attracts and supports a broadly diverse community.”

The increased emphasis on the University’s accountability in carrying out its planned programs is a major overall addition to the new Roadmap.

“By clearly identifying our objectives, the Roadmap will help our community hold us accountable to our commitments in the months and years ahead,” the document states. “We will also employ a variety of mechanisms for accountability — surveys, data, periodic reports, and opportunities for community input — to quantify or redirect our work.”

The “Key Dates” section of the new document highlighted a step toward transparency and accountability. The section outlined a summary and a timeline of diversity initiatives taking place within the following subgroups: Restatement of Principles, Faculty, Students, Staff, Education, “Climate, Culture and Community” and Engaging with Baltimore. The section also included a list of the distinct administrative offices responsible for the initiatives and their current progress.

To make its efforts more transparent the University offers new websites on diversity, equity and accessibility.

With regard to faculty, the new Roadmap expanded on many of the points and programs of previous documents, such as the Faculty Diversity Initiative. It also emphasized the need to improve faculty mentoring programs.

While both Roadmaps acknowledged the fact that there is a small hiring pool for underrepresented minority faculty, the

new document details the University’s commitment to creating a pipeline for underrepresented minority students to gain access to graduate level work, and expresses the hope of increasing this pool.

In terms of student diversity programs, the new Roadmap reiterated many of the points in the initial Roadmap but added further considerations for transgender students, veterans and graduate students.

In addition, the new Roadmap highlighted a new initiative where all current and incoming freshmen will be required to attend a cultural competency workshop. The undergraduate curriculum currently does not have a course requirement for cultural competency. The Office of the Provost is also in the process of making cultural competency training modules to address the varying facets of creating an inclusive environment. The document detailed similar new programs across the nine divisions of the University.

The new Roadmap also described efforts Hopkins has taken in exploring its own history of race and diversity. One such program is the Hopkins Retrospective, which includes an oral history project, the collection of alumni archives

and symposia. The new Roadmap stated that there is an increase in the number of administrators and faculty whose main focus is to oversee matters

of equity, diversity and inclusion.

One new position is the associate dean for diversity and inclusion for the Krieger School of Arts and Sciences (KSAS) and the Whiting School of Engineering (WSE). Each department in KSAS outlined an action plan for its cultural practices and appointed a tenure or tenure-track faculty to serve as Diversity Champion to enforce those practices.

The previous Roadmap called for greater student participation and leadership in the development of diversity policies. The new Roadmap described how the Diversity Leadership Council welcomed its largest number of student members in the 2016-17 academic year.

In response to the initial Roadmap’s commitment to increasing the number of Africana studies faculty members, the University has hired four of the five faculty it committed to in the previous Roadmap. However, there are currently no plans to make the Center for Africana Studies into a department.

Examining the University’s role in Baltimore, the new Roadmap detailed community-building projects, such as the East Baltimore Development Initiative, and partnerships with public schools.

Unlike the previous Roadmap, however, the new document does not include a section soliciting community feedback.

NEWS & FEATURES

Trump's victory sinks in: a campus in shock



COURTESY OF ROLLIN HU
Students painted the Blue Jay statue outside of the FFC in protest of Trump's victory.

ELECTION, FROM A1
course sexism plays a role, but as a club we're really concerned with every person that's affected... It's not only women because it was a woman versus Trump. This has to do with the intersectionality of many different problems in our country."

One of the major concerns raised by students in light of a Trump presidency is how his policies will affect women. In the past 18 months, Trump has publicly made lewd and derogatory comments about women.

Horn denounced Trump's rhetoric because she said it normalizes sexual assault.

"Trump has been explicit that he plans to appoint judges who are going to be against Roe v. Wade, who will overturn that decision. This is progress from the '70s we're talking about erasing," Horn said. "You can explicitly talk about sexual assault and be accused of sexual assault by multiple women, and this country will still hand you the highest office in this land."

Cynthia Hadler, president of Hopkins Democrats, vocalized the fears of Democrats on campus.

"Our classmates who are PoC, immigrants, the children of immigrants, practice a religion other than Christianity, LGBT and females are uncertain their rights will persist within the new administration," she wrote in an email to *The News-Letter*.

Matthew Brown, a member of the Black Student Union (BSU), worries what Trump's victory means for race relations in the United States.

"America messed up. We thought a Trump presidency would never happen, yet it's going to," Brown wrote in an email to *The News-Letter*. "I'm stunned that despite what Trump and his running mate [Mike] Pence stand for, Americans around the nation thought this team represented our country well. I've looked through their policies and I still wonder where my representation lies in someone who was actively endorsed by a former leader of the KKK."

On Wednesday afternoon Terry Martinez, dean of student life, emailed students a list of spaces on campus where they could reflect on the election results.

"I was receiving emails from students saying that they were stressed, they were angry, they were fearful and they wanted to have gathering spaces to talk about that. The conversations in each of the rooms weren't political at all. It was just for students to share their concerns," Martinez said. "I know that there are

students who are Trump supporters who probably are also afraid to share their perspectives."

University President Ronald J. Daniels emphasized the importance of offering support to students.

"Members of our community have expressed a sense of anxiety over what the outcome of this election means for our country, for the world beyond, and of course, for those who were affected by vitriolic campaign rhetoric," Daniels wrote in an email to *The News-Letter*. "The core ethos of the University is more important than ever. Universities stand for a commitment to ideas, to equal opportunity, to facts, to rigorous debate, to respect and civility."

In light of the surprise and concern that has flooded campus over the election results, many students are outraged. Among them is co-chair of the Hopkins chapter of Students for a Democratic Society (SDS), Corey Payne.

"I'm disgusted with the election of a neo-fascist, and I'm disgusted with the liberal media's normalization of this outcome," Payne wrote in an email to *The News-Letter*. "We need to give ourselves the space and time to reflect on what this means for ourselves and for this country. But then we need to mobilize. We need to make it resoundingly clear that this man does not represent us. We need to fight back."

Other students have already mobilized. About a dozen students travelled to Washington, D.C. yesterday to protest outside the White House. Junior David Weiner-Light, one of the students who went to D.C., spent the day chanting slogans and holding up anti-Trump signs.

He explained that he and his fellow protesters did not feel comfortable going about their day as planned. To them, going to class did not seem like an appropriate response.

"I definitely wouldn't say we were protesting the result itself. We were all understanding and in agreement with how democracy works, but it was more to express our frustration and begrudgingly accept the new reality," he said.

The election has shown a nation deeply divided, and Trump has centered his campaign around this growing split.

Liam Haviv, president of IDEAL, mentioned that in hindsight, Trump's victory should not have been as much of a surprise. He compared the result to the shock exit of the United Kingdom from the European Union in June. However, Haviv stressed that frustration with Washington politics were contributing factors

ton. And it didn't matter. Our job is going to be to understand why," he said.

Senior Alexander Fine said that the election reflected discontent among white Americans.

"Last night was the culmination of a wave of anti-establishment nativism that has swept across the western world," he said. "Due to globalization and free trade, white blue-collar workers in the Rust Belt feel marginalized and forgotten by the economic and political elites."

Senior Elliot Frumkin acknowledged that liberal college environments might have prevented Hopkins students from understanding the extent of Trump's support.

"While most at Hopkins might not even know anyone who voted for Trump, we have to realize that Hopkins is a bubble of young, educated, privileged, liberal ideology and that others around the country disagree [with]," he said.

Joseph Klein, a member of the College Republicans who does not support Trump, said that Democrats should have been more proactive leading up to the election if they had wanted to prevent a Trump presidency.

"Everyone who cared so much and is so upset today, where were you for the past six months?" Klein asked. "I know you were on Facebook and Twitter and Tumblr and that's all great. But you don't vote on Facebook."

Klein cited his experience as a volunteer for Ohio Governor John Kasich during the primaries, stressing how easy it is to help with a political campaign. He highlighted that two swing states, Virginia and Pennsylvania, are an hour drive from campus and that more students should have volunteered.

"If Pennsylvania [was lost] by around 50,000 votes and everyone made 30 calls a day, [Clinton] could have won Pennsylvania. If she won Pennsylvania, it would have been a much different game right now," he said. "[Trump's] people showed up, they voted, they volunteered, they went to the polls. Her people didn't."

Klein expressed his belief that the stigma sur-

rounding Trump may have skewed initial beliefs that predicted Clinton would win.

"That's the million dollar question. How did he do it?" Klein asked. "As far as polling goes, this is something that I learned when I door-knocked. I knocked on a Kasich door and they were proud of that. [If] I knocked on a Cruz door, they would definitely tell you that they were a Cruz supporter. You knock on a Trump door, and they didn't say anything."

Many, including Hopkins alumna Hallie Jackson, a journalist who was MSNBC's imbedded reporter during the Republican primary and general election campaign, conceded that Trump ran an effective campaign.

"Trump has showed us the power of having a million or two million Twitter followers. With a single message or a single tweet, he is, at times, driving the storyline for an entire day or sometimes longer. We haven't seen that before," Jackson said. "What we've seen from him in particular has been a really interesting change or evolution of the way that we see social media being used in a presidential campaign."

Despite the Republican Party's future control of both Congress and the Presidency, many Hopkins faculty question whether the party will govern effectively.

One skeptic is Steven David, a professor of international relations who specializes in security politics.

"One can hope that he will get good advisers, but Trump does not have a record of listening to others, and most of the respected Republican foreign policy strategists have declared they will never work for him," David wrote in an email to *The News-Letter*. "In domestic politics, there are significant checks and balances on a President. Less so in foreign policy, especially when it comes to sending troops into battle and heaven help us, launching a nuclear attack. America is a resilient country, and I expect we will survive a Trump presidency. But I sure wish we didn't have to take the risk."

Adam Sheingate, professor and chair of the political science department, emphasized how the election has exposed the need for America to self-reflect and work toward fixing problems inherent to its political system.

"If you're an optimist like me — that the system is robust — this is like a stress test... We'll show ourselves to be up to the test," he said. "The thing to remember is that we have a system of government that separates power and diffuses power to different levels of government."

Hopkins welcomes new café-bookstore

By KATHERINE LOGAN
For *The News-Letter*

Bird in Hand, a new café-bookstore found on 33rd Street, opened its doors on Oct. 7.

This new space aims to cater to the intellectual, literary nature of the Charles Village community and to partner with Hopkins by hosting author events.

William Egginton, director of the new Alexander Grass Humanities Institute, discussed the partnership between the new institute and Bird in Hand.

"They wanted a robust programming of intellectual literary events, and we were looking for a public outlet as well," he said. "So we entered into a partnership whereby we'll be holding events there, for example, literary readings, which will not happen in the classic way. Usually, a lecture on campus happens around 5:15 [p.m.], so these will be about two hours later. A barista will stay; They'll offer certain food and coffee. It'll be a more casual but still intellectually stimulating event that will be open to the greater public."

Ed Berlin, co-owner of The Ivy Bookshop with Ann Berlin, also described Bird in Hand's relationship with Hopkins. The Berlins founded Bird in Hand along with Spike Gjerde of the Baltimore-based Woodberry Kitchen.

"We work with the Writing Seminars [department] — we've been their bookseller for three or four years. They're welcome to have events here. Then, of course, there is the Humanities Institute, and we've talked about a number of different opportunities when they bring in an author or we bring in an author," Berlin said.

Berlin also said that working closely with the Sheridan Libraries will allow them to host events at a venue that is much closer to campus.

"The third is that we've had a long-standing relationship with the Sheridan Libraries. They've been doing at least one or two events a year at The Ivy Bookshop on Falls Road," he said. "It doesn't make any sense to do them up there anymore, so whenever they have a smaller event, they'll probably do it here."

Berlin also stressed that they plan for their relationship with Hopkins to continue to evolve, and they are open to hosting a variety of different events.

"From a programmatic point of view, we think that'll expand," Berlin said. "We've talked to people in the anthropology area, we've done events in the past with people in sociology. We're just going to let them tell us how they want to utilize the space."

Junior Richard Um expressed interest in the unique events that the new café-bookstore plans to host, emphasizing the role they could play in the community.

"I think it'll be very interesting to have that. I think it's good for the community as a whole, especially the Charles Village area, because we haven't really had stuff like that," he said.

Freshman Madison Torrez is also looking forward to attending author events at Bird in Hand.

"I'm in Writing Sems, so I'm definitely attracted to all the readings. I'm very excited to see those," she said.

Sophomore Chloe Pacyna is most excited about the book selection the store offers.

"We're all really excited about having this here. Having a decent coffee and combining that with books. Those are two of my favorite things in the world," she said.

Pacyna is also looking forward to the collection of literature in the new café-bookstore.

"Also, it looks like the books are really thoughtfully curated," she said. "I'm really excited to explore, it's like seeing someone's personal library. To have this right here is incredible."

Junior Aleksandra Popovic added that while there are several other coffee shops such as Starbucks and Carma's Café in the area, Bird in Hand's menu has much to offer that sets it apart from its peers.

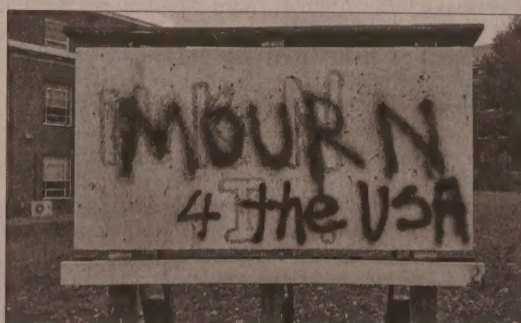
"I think it does add just another coffee shop to the area, but I think it's unique in that it has the bookstore aspect, it has a really nice sitting area, and then the offerings in terms of coffee and food are definitely different than what you would get at Starbucks or Brody Café," Popovic said. "For example, they have cortado, which is something that I haven't had in forever and that I haven't been able to get anywhere in the area, so I'm really excited about that."

Junior Claire Gray, who works at Bird in Hand, highlighted the fact that the ingredients used in the food and drinks are high-quality and locally sourced.

"The coffee is really, really good, and the food is all locally sourced, even the grains and the milk. It just tastes really good. My favorite thing on the menu is probably the french bread pizzas and the tomato soup," she said.

Jeong Yeon Lee, Class of 2016, agreed that there was a need for artisanal coffee in the Charles Village area.

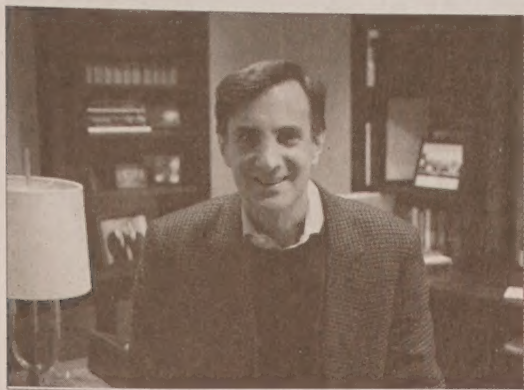
"There are a lot of coffee shops, but I don't think there are any third-wave specialized coffee shops in the area, and so it's nice to have that in Charles Village where you don't have to go to Mount Vernon or to Artifact to have this now," Lee said.



COURTESY OF SDS
The murals outside of BLC were painted with anti-Trump slogans.

NEWS & FEATURES

President Daniels defends diversity, mental health, East Baltimore policies



FILE PHOTO

President Daniels has served in his role at the University since 2009.

DANIELS, FROM A1
when describing any of the University's policies.

In response, Daniels acknowledged that there may indeed be some school practices, such as faculty recruitment, that are unintentionally racist.

"I think we have to be open to the possibility that there are things that we are doing that systematically impact different racial groups disproportionately," Daniels said. "There are things that we are doing that inadvertently perpetuate disadvantage."

Daniels added that the new Roadmap works to address these policies.

"The role of the Roadmap has been to look in a comprehensive way, [at the] things that we are doing, dealing with a number of different stakeholder groups from faculty, staff, students and ultimately the City of which we are a part and saying, 'How can we do better in our interactions with those groups?'" Daniels said.

Students have also criticized the University's failure to enforce a cultural competency distribution requirement, which would require students to take classes on gender, inequality and racism. This requirement was one of the Black Student Union (BSU)'s demands during their confrontation with Daniels in Nov. 2015.

While a class requirement has not yet been implemented, Daniels explained how the entire freshman class are required to attend newly designed cultural competency sessions. The Council of Undergraduate Education will look over the proposed class requirement.

"We don't just want to look at this issue in isolation from other parts of the curriculum. This should be done in a thoughtful way, maybe in a sense that there's other distribution requirements that should be rethought," Daniels said. "We want to make sure that commitment dovetails with other things that we are thinking about doing with the undergraduate experience."

The new Roadmap cites a figure reporting that approximately 60 percent of students in the Krieger School of Arts and Sciences (KSAS) and 25 percents of students in the Whiting School of Engineering (WSE) have taken a class that explores gender, sexuality, religion and race.

"I think the observation that there are currently a number of students taking these courses was not meant to say that this is sufficient," Daniels said. "It's only a way of demonstrating that we start from a foundation where

there are a lot of students taking courses in these areas."

Hopkins in Baltimore

Over the past decade, Daniels said that the University has supported the East Baltimore Development Inc. (EBDI) in revitalizing 88 acres of East Baltimore neighborhoods fraught with vacancies, violence and unemployment. Daniels elaborated on the role of EBDI in the University's commitment to Baltimore.

"The decision was made with the city, the state, the Annie E. Casey foundation and ultimately Johns Hopkins — to say that this is a community, that if we should think about these 88 acres holistically and try to create a rejuvenated East Baltimore community," Daniels said.

Critics argue that EBDI has displaced previous residents from their homes in the neighborhood without providing adequate resources.

Daniels acknowledged that such relocations can be difficult and that Hopkins has considered the impacts on the families in the neighborhood. As a result, the University has held 300 community meetings, provided counseling and advisory services for relocation and paid three times the value of homes to homeowners.

"EBDI did its best to do the relocation... Relocation is traumatic, even though the community had several major challenges in terms of the vacancies, the crime levels and the poverty rates," Daniels said. "This was home for a lot of people, and so one has to be respectful of how difficult that move was, even with the substantial financial subsidies and the supports that were provided. I think this is something that we have to acknowledge as a city. These are difficult traumatic moments and decisions you don't want to make frequently."

The Humanities Center

The Humanities Center (HC), which is facing potential closure in the wake of its third review, has been a point of contention between the administration, the department and the student body.

Daniels defended the University's position and stressed that the number of tenured faculty in the humanities has increased from 90 to 110 over the past several years. He separated the general study of the humanities from the HC itself and explained that the Center's review was necessary, considering the changing times.

"It's not about the humanities at large — it is

about the fate of a distinct department that is undergoing significant intergenerational change," Daniels said. "We just had two major retirements from that department, and it's in that context that the Dean has thought it appropriate to stand back and ask the question of whether the department should continue to function as a department or as a center."

Daniels defended Dean of KSAS Beverly Wendland's efforts to re-evaluate the department.

"I am entirely comfortable with the questions that are being asked [about the HC] and I, like the Dean, have no particular commitment to any outcome that the advisory committee will come back with," Daniels said. "I only want to see that the process runs its course and that we get back good, principled and pragmatic advice."

Administration and Structure

Many students criticize the University's "administrative bloat," which they say increases tuition.

In response, Daniels agreed that University administration has grown over the years, but that much of this growth can be ascribed to an increase in student-requested services, such as more hires in the Career Center or the Office of Academic Advising.

Additionally, he pointed to the increased accountability measures that Universities face today, like Title IX requirements.

"When we say administrative growth, we've got to unpack it and see what is being grown,"

Daniels said. "Often these are services that are, at one level, being requested by students. And these are legitimate requests that students are making, and we're doing our best to respond to these requests. At the same time, there's just a host of mandated compliance responsibilities that we now face that are taking up more and more of our time and energy, and that too, is reflected in the growth of administration."

Another criticism of the University's administration has been a trend toward centralization at the cost of departmental autonomy. Daniels responded that Hopkins still emphasizes interdepartmental communication and teamwork.

"The University is organized into schools and departments for very good reason, and one wants to be respectful of those boundaries," Daniels said. "Having said that, I am convinced that the great universities are ones in which students

and faculty can easily find their way in connecting different disciplines and perspectives."

Daniels argued that the Bloomberg Distinguished Professorship Program is an example of how departments exercise their autonomy in selecting faculty.

"That's not centralization — that's a decision that only comes from

faculty, from the ground up, working together to recruit someone and then ensuring we have the resources to support them. These are initiated by faculty within departments, with broad stakeholder advice, and that is linking up the University together," Daniels said. "That doesn't speak in any way to centralization, of a command of top down decision making. This is by definition bottom up."

From the decision to revoke covered grades, to the potential closure of the Humanities Center, the University has often been criticized for making the argument that it is striving to be like "peer institutions."

However, Daniels separated Hopkins from its peer institutions by arguing that the University has a comparatively smaller endowment than competing schools, which forces it to do things differently.

"You have to innovate to excellence. And that is an over hackneyed

"There are things that we do that inadvertently perpetuate disadvantage."

— RONALD DANIELS, UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT

phrase but it's really true here. You can't just use the standard techniques or strategies of institutions that are far better endowed than we are," he said. "In order to catapult yourself to a level of preeminence, you have to do things differently to build on our distinctive strengths and capabilities."

Daniels pointed to

the HEART and SOUL seminar-style courses as an innovation in undergraduate education that is indicative of the opportunities the University is creating to support interdisciplinary collaboration.

In one of the points in his Ten by Twenty Plan, Daniels strives to have the University's undergraduate experience stand as one of the top 10 in the nation.

"For me, it was very important to set an aspiration for excellence — that [Hopkins] not just aim to be a good undergraduate program, but a preeminent undergraduate program, a top 10 undergraduate program," Daniels said.

Daniels clarified that students should not take the *U.S. News & World Report* as the benchmark for measuring whether Hopkins is a top 10 school. He offered alternative ways in which the University has measured its "top 10" status.

"There's a number of ways in which you can look at proxies for the University's performance. Look at the demand for your program, look at the diversity of your class, look at the quality of the entering body, look at the rate of innovation of new courses, look at the views that students have while they're at the University and upon graduation how they assess this experience," Daniels said. "And of course constantly thinking about how you benchmark against peer institutions: Are you doing things differently, more imaginatively than your peers and do the students appear to appreciate that?"

The interview has been edited for clarity.

Christakis talks human social networks at MSE

By ALYSSA WOODEN
For The News-Letter

Yale Professor Nicholas Christakis gave a talk titled "Social Networks for Good" on Wednesday, Nov. 9 in Shriver Hall. Christakis was hosted by the Milton S. Eisenhower (MSE) Symposium as part of its theme, "Facing Fracture."

Christakis' research focuses on biosocial science, network science and behavior genetics. His lecture discussed how and why human beings are all connected and how social networks affect all aspects of the human experience.

"To my eye, these networks are intricate things of beauty," Christakis said. "They are so elaborate and so complex and so ubiquitous in fact, that one has to wonder, what purpose do they serve?"

Christakis began by exploring the obesity epidemic in the United States. He talked about research suggesting that an individual who knows others who are obese is more likely to be obese himself.

"The fact that people are embedded in social networks and are influenced by the appearances and behaviors of those around them suggested to us that weight gain in one individual might influence weight gain in other individuals to whom they are connected," Christakis said.

He proposed several explanations for this phenomenon, including

induction and homophily. Induction is the idea that one person's habits have a "domino effect" on those around them, while homophily is the concept that two people with similar habits or lifestyles are more likely to be connected in a social network.

These explanations are implicated in the broader idea of emotional contagion, which Christakis explained is an important characteristic of social networks.

"We've seen that emotional contagion is a fundamental aspect of human emotional experience," he said. "It's normal human behavior. If someone smiles at you, you smile back."

Christakis' experiments found that altruistic behavior spreads through networks and that one person's behavior can influence another, even when distanced by several degrees of separation.

"How you two treat each other," Christakis said, "depends on how they treat each other, even though neither of you knows either of them."

Understanding the results of these experiments allows social scientists to intervene in networks to implement positive change.

In another experiment in Honduras, Christakis and his team analyzed different ways of spreading public health initiatives in villages. They found that when the initiatives were

targeted at people with more connections, they spread more effectively than when targeted at random residents.

The structure and function of social networks is implicated in other aspects of society as well.

"These various observations about social network structure and function might be related to what we've been seeing in student activism on campus," Christakis said. "Movements that begin with young people ultimately come to fruition in the whole of our society, in my view making our society better."

He mentioned an email written by his wife Erika Christakis, also a lecturer at Yale, which encouraged students to maintain an open perspective on controversial Halloween costumes. This letter was met with a student-run campaign to get the Christakis removed from their positions at the university.

"On the Yale campus, there was a huge outpouring of ideas that quickly spread through the network of a college campus," Christakis said.

He stressed that, despite the distinction between feelings and ideas, students were not able to separate the two because of a social network mentality.

Christakis also emphasized the need to cultivate a sense of individuality and to maintain one's own ideas and beliefs despite the fact that they

may differ from those of the larger network that one belongs to.

To conclude his lecture, Christakis again remarked on the importance of networks and their role in making the world a better place. He introduced the idea of social capital, which hypothesizes that people must make changes to themselves and to each other to yield a higher rate of return.

"If you invest skill and effort, you transform the natural world, you make it more productive and capable of doing things it wasn't able to do before," he said.

Students who attended Christakis' lecture were impressed with his eloquence and extensive knowledge on the topic. Freshman Ananya Reddy attended because she saw the event on Facebook.

"I thought it was really interesting, and I guess I thought about connectivity and things like that before but never as scientifically as it was presented. I think it was a good overview of his research," she said.

Senior Teddy Kupfer, MSE chair, explained why Christakis had been chosen to speak at Hopkins.

"He's such a prominent intellectual," Kupfer said. "His work goes into so many different areas — sociology, politics, psychology, philosophy. So I think it's important that we get people like that who are original researchers."

NEWS & FEATURES

Students criticize DAPL, defend Native American and environmental rights

DAPL, FROM A1

"First of all, the struggle of the indigenous people against the Dakota pipeline project must be inscribed within the long-lasting battle of the native people against the encroaching of U.S. government and business into their land," Dallona wrote in an email to *The News-Letter*. "It is well known how the seizure of land from native people — together with all the resources it holds — and their (mal)integration within the domestic and world economy has led to enormous social dislocations in those communities, the effects of which we see in the sky-high rates of unemployment, drug abuse, chronic health conditions that affect native territories."

Those who oppose development projects similar to DAPL have historically promoted "Not In My Backyard (NIMBY),

feelings that such projects encroach on land that is too close to home.

However, Dallona emphasized that the movement against DAPL has spread beyond Native Americans and NIMBYism to include other activists who are concerned about sustainable energy.

Protesters, who call themselves 'water protectors,' are concerned that the pipeline poses a threat of spilling oil into water supply and harming environmentally sensitive lands.

"It has now grown into an heterogeneous movement. The struggle of the Native people is therefore embedded within and supported by a range of other actors," Dallona wrote. "According to these views, fracking is an environmentally and socially unsustainable practice of 'extreme extraction,' generating high carbon emissions and irreversibly contaminating groundwaters and air, not to talk about the array of health issues suffered by communities living in proximity of these projects."

"Native Americans are already a vulnerable population. They're taking advantage of them."

— YARELIX ESTRADA, GRAD STUDENT

try's oppressive past. Estrada believes that Energy Transfer Partners, the company behind DAPL, should respect Native American land.

"If they want to do a pipeline they shouldn't do it through the reservation," she said. "They should comply with the

laws they had before. Native Americans are already a vulnerable population. They're taking advantage of them. They're not rich. They're not powerful stakeholders on those issues."

Senior Cera Hassinan, whose mother is a member of the Sioux tribe protesting DAPL, leads an indigenous people's group at Hopkins. She emphasized that the tribes oppose the construction of any pipeline near their ancestral land.

"You can't build a pipeline that can be built under sacred ground. If this pipeline were to burst, it would poison the river and that water," Hassinan said. "They're saying 'water is life.' There are previous accounts of pipelines breaking hurting land, life and hurting the environment. The Native American land is being given by the government and they're being told to build a pipeline without permission of the native people."

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is now expected to complete a full Environmental Impact Statement on DAPL. The opposition has sued the agency on grounds that it is violating the National Historical Preservation Act.

However, the pipeline has already gained approval by the federal government and is expected to be complete in early 2017. Unlike the fourth stage of the Keystone XL pipeline, which President Obama vetoed after it passed through Congress, the White House continues to



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Members of the Sioux tribe and "water protectors" have been protesting the Dakota Access Pipeline project.

monitor the situation.

Opposers of DAPL, including some Hopkins students, have used Facebook's check-in feature to report that they are at the Standing Rock Indian Reservation. The trend arose as a method to confuse law enforcement who used Facebook to monitor the protestors.

"I'm not sure the check-in really helped, but the fact that they're getting [the word out on] social media... helps [by] letting as many people know what's going on," Hassinan said.

Sophomore Vahni-Bernard Vishala was one of thousands who checked in to Standing Rock Indian Reservation on Facebook to support the cause. She believes that given the history of Native American displacement in the country, government and businesses

should not impose themselves onto their sacred spaces.

"[The pipeline] intrudes upon their culture, and it's such a violation of their basic human rights," she said. "We have certain things granted to us in the constitution through our culture. It's disrespectful to the Native Americans and [implies] that are they not American citizens too. You don't see anyone saying let's build a pipeline through a church."

On the other hand, Hopkins graduate student Jackie Choi posted on Facebook in response to the growing online movement, stressing that it is equally important to partake in activism in addition to showing solidarity on social media.

"I think it's 'slacktivism' to post and not donate something. A lot of people said

they were 'checking in' for solidarity, and, up front, that's fine," Choi said. "Even sharing for the sake of boosting knowledge about the issue for those who don't know about it is even fine. But to make the claim that they're making a huge difference because of the check-in? That's ridiculous. A lot of people don't donate, they just post, and that's frustrating."

Dallona argued that the project rewards oil companies while disadvantaging the already marginalized native populations.

"The crucial question here is who pays for and who reaps the benefits from this project. As we've seen there is a long history tracking the perpetual defeats of the Native Americans in these processes," she wrote.

The DAPL project is projected to be completed by Jan. 1, 2017.

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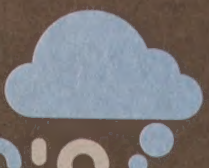
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VOICES

Hopkins is a diverse university, where an incredible mix of cultures, academic interests and personalities coexist and thrive...

To all the freshmen thinking of transferring



Alyssa Remshak
Guest Columnist

I was in love with Hopkins a week after I arrived. The campus was beautiful, my classes were more interesting than anything I had ever taken in high school, I was meeting tons of amazing new people and I was thrilled about all the great things I would be able to do in Baltimore.

My honeymoon phase lasted through the first couple of months; through the frustrating "B average" grading policy of the Writing Seminars department; through learning how to study because I never had to in high school; through suitemate conflicts and through the isolation that I started to feel when I realized I didn't have the time or the money to leave campus very often.

Then I went home for Thanksgiving and spent time in my small, familiar hometown, spent time with my high school friends, and I remembered what it felt like to really belong somewhere. I didn't have that feeling at

Hopkins.

When my parents took me back to the airport on the last day of Thanksgiving break, I sat alone at the gate and thought there was no way I could get on that plane. It had never occurred to me, during my application process, that a school that was so hard to get into would be an even more difficult place in which to get decent grades.

It hadn't occurred to me in my first few months of school how much fun I had with my friends at home and how I never had that feeling here. I was getting very little sleep, hardly had time to do things I enjoyed and I was beginning to doubt whether or not this "elite education" was worth it. As I sat at the airport realizing I didn't want to go back, I considered transferring for the first time.

So now, exactly one year later, I have some advice for freshmen who feel the same way:

Don't be afraid to admit how you're feeling. Chances are, when you go home for Thanksgiving, you'll catch up with high school friends who will go on forever about the wonderful time they're having in college. It's not that they're lying; They're just conveniently leaving out the homesickness, stress about classes and fears about making friends that everyone experiences. Chances

are, your high school friends have had some of the same discontentment with their own schools, and they are more likely to open up when you do.

However, the fear of talking about it isn't just limited to friends. Transferring can be a difficult thing to bring up to your parents, especially if they're paying your tuition or have certain expectations for what type of college you should be attending.

But the reality is, whether it's fortunate or unfortunate for you, your parents will need to be involved if you do make the decision to transfer. Talk to them early, because "I'm not very happy with school" is far less likely to elicit a negative response than springing on them that you want to transfer.

Think specifically about why you're unhappy here. Make a list, either on paper or just in your head. Is it your stress level? Does Hopkins not have a major you're really interested in? Do you feel like you don't really fit in with your group of friends? Pinpointing specific things will not only help you feel less stressed but will also help you determine whether or not the reasons you're unhappy are things you can change.

Think about things you like about Hopkins. Although there were definitely times my freshman fall when I would have bitterly answered, "nothing," this wouldn't have been true. Maybe you have a really good relationship with your roommate? Maybe you really like the

food? Maybe you're still really excited about all the different research opportunities Hopkins has to offer?

Transferring is a drastic life change, and thinking about the positives of Hopkins alongside the negatives will help you put your feelings into perspective.

Ask yourself if there's anything you can do to make yourself happier. Some are easier fixes than others. Rethinking the premed track? Hopkins makes it so easy to explore different academic areas. Having major conflicts with your roommate? Talk to your RA. Don't feel like you belong in your friend group? Get involved in different things.

This time of year, everyone feels completely burnt out. Looking forward to making changes next semester will improve your current stress levels, especially if you're still planning on returning.

I'll leave you all with one last thought: Hopkins is unique in that a lot changes here after freshman fall. Everything from my study habits to my friend group are completely different now than they were a year ago. I joined a sorority and met the most amazing, supportive, crazy and fun friends I could've asked for. I realized I didn't need a 4.0 to be successful and decided to stop sacrificing sleep and happiness to make this happen.

Now, I can honestly say I am happier here than I would be anywhere else. Hopkins feels just as much like home to me as my hometown in Illinois. I don't want to tell anyone they shouldn't transfer, because I recognize that Hopkins really isn't the best fit for some people.

However, I want to encourage everyone to give this school one last chance next semester, and most importantly, I want you to know that if you don't really love your freshman fall, you are not alone.

Can we learn things from Paris Hilton?



Meagan Peoples
Ignorant in America

Should you choose to spend your time as I do, then you've probably spent an inordinate amount of time Googling Paris Hilton. Granddaughter of Conrad Hilton, founder of the Hilton Hotels and the pre-Kim Kardashian era staple of "famous for being famous" culture, she has become a household name in her own right and a cornerstone of millennial pop culture. Perhaps it's a little late to write a column about someone who has become out-dated version of the Kardashian-Jenner empire, but I believe there is still something to be said for Paris Hilton.

For one, her sex tape was titled "1 night in Paris," and, as someone who spends an inordinate amount of her time here at Hopkins studying poetry, I feel I am qualified to say that this is one of the most beautiful things I have ever read.

Unfortunately I have word minimum I have to meet, otherwise I would end the column with that knowledge. Thankfully, however, there is plenty more to learn about Paris Hilton.

When you Google her,

for example, you get one of three types of results. You get the expected articles talking about her style or her dress at Paris fashion week or her most recent feud with "other famous person you are supposed to care about even though they aren't Paris Hilton." You also get the long, scholarly articles and novels entitled things like, "Female Chauvinistic Pigs: The rise of raunch culture" that blame Hilton for teenage sex, the rise of media culture and pornography. Then there's the third kind which will probably disappear after it stops being November in 2016, questioning her friendship status with Donald Trump.

It seems weird to me how much blame there is ready for Hilton to take on. People want to lambast her for doing nothing while simultaneously blaming her for belly button rings, divorce and other terrible vices of the 21st century. As an icon for the early 2000s she seems to represent a move away from "wholesome" values to many and a move into the immorality of being young, rich and famous. Yet, there's something impressive about how she's taken this image and turned it into a brand as well as a lot of money.

In a *Forbes* interview with the heiress, she revealed that she had plans for how her 45 stores and \$2 billion fragrance industry is going to grow with her as she gets older, fully aware of the fact that her party girl image is not going to last much past her ability to pull all-nighters.

It's important to note how much of a head start Paris Hilton had when she was creating her said empire. She wasn't exactly pulling herself up from her bootstraps. Rather, it was like she had servants to hold bootstraps for her. So, perhaps her success is not so impressive, but I do know that I was certainly not reaching out to Donald Trump to join his new modelling agency at 15, nor was I trying to start my own line of perfume at 16. So maybe there's something more to the woman than the ditzy blonde she portrayed on TV for so many years.

Whether you think her success is impressive or not, you have to admit that it does raise some interesting questions in the golden age of reality TV, where even our presidents can't come untainted by it. While I am not the first to speculate about the veracity of the shows that Americans love so much or how ironic the name is, I think that a retrospective look at Paris Hilton's rise to fame shows that the people who make up our favorite programming seem to know how much they get from being stupid or mean or funny in a way that can make the average American feel better about themselves. So think about that the next time you turn on *Keeping up with the Kardashians*.



Between classes and homesickness, being a freshman at Hopkins can be really hard.

Why you should listen to Empire of the Sun's new album



Hayley Bronner
Rising Ambitions

Need a new album for your favorite playlist or to play when you and your friends need some great background music? Add Empire of the Sun's new album to your queue! They just released their new album, *Two Vines*, on Oct. 28, and you do not want to miss it.

It features contributions from music royalty as impressive as Lindsey Buckingham (who you might know from his Fleetwood Mac days). It also features the impressive musical experience of members from David Bowie's *Blackstar* band: pianist Henry Hey and bassist Tim Lefebvre.

Luke Steele and Nick Littlemore formed Empire of the Sun back in 2007 in

Sydney, Australia and released their first album, *Walking on a Dream*, in October 2008. This album has since reached double platinum status in Australia. They worked first as simple collaborators, helping each other with their respective projects. Littlemore helped Steele with songs that appeared on his band The Sleepy Jackson's debut album, *Lovers*, and Steele also collaborated to Littlemore's bands, Pnau and Teenager.

The band waited five years to release their second album and then waited another three years to release a third. The single "Walking on a Dream," which won Single of the Year at the 2009 Grammys, was used in a Honda commercial, and viewers could not stop Shazaming it. That commercial became the most Shazamed commercial of the year and Empire of the Sun skyrocketed back into the spotlight.

This dance/electric rock band's name comes from their vast amount of traveling, particularly to places where the sun has historically been worshipped, although some claim the name comes

from J. G. Ballard's 1984 novel of the same name.

When performing, the band wears elaborate headdresses and uses props onstage to give their fans an unforgettable visual experience. "Walking on a Dream" was originally intended to be a studio-only project, but when their success starting to explode, *Empire of the Sun* could not turn down an international release and promotional tour throughout Europe and North America in 2009.

When they returned to Australia later in the year, they made their live debut at Parklife Festival in September. Eventually, their North American debut was premiered at Lollapalooza Music Festival. After a second album and a few quiet years, their song was placed in a Honda Civic commercial and they again topped the charts with their eight year-old song. "Walking on a Dream" hit number three on *Billboard's* alternative music chart and hit number forty on the *Mainstream Top 40* chart.

Empire of the Sun announced their third album *Two Vines* in August of this year and released the first

single off of the album, "High and Low," on Aug. 24. Listeners are falling back in love with the band because of the amazing tracks on the new album. Fun Fact: The album was recorded in Honolulu, Hawaii at Avex Studios!

Unfortunately, Empire of the Sun will not be in Baltimore, or even on the east coast, anytime soon, but if you are heading out west for any reason, catch them in Colorado, Utah, Washington and California in December. It is definitely a good way

to spend a long weekend. Or even better, if you are willing, take an extended vacation and fly all the way to Australia for their two appearances at FOMO Festival. It is worth the trip.

You can sign up for updates on when they will be in a venue near you on their website (empireofthesun.com). Listen to the band's music on Spotify and follow them on Facebook (@empireofthesun) and Twitter (@EmpireOfTheSun) for daily updates.



ROGER HO/ CC BY-NC-ND 2.0
Empire of the Sun wears elaborate headdresses when it performs.

VOICES

Here is the section where you can publish your unique thoughts, ideas and perspectives on life at Hopkins and beyond.

The seven stages of dealing with election results



Diva Parekh
Copy Queen

1. Pretending like everything's fine

The Google election results tab is open on your computer. It's still early, though, so the tab is minimized just like your slowly mounting fear. Some states look like they might still swing blue (Hello, Pa.).

You get dinner, and there's a weird, quiet sort of tension in the air. People are talking, as usual, but every time you head over to grab a waffle fry, you hear the radio playing at the back of the FFC. There's no escaping it.

2. Utter and complete disbelief

Watching the map turn more and more red, you think, "No way this is happening right now." With all the progress in our society over the past decade, no way this man is going to just undo it.

You're going to wake up and this will all have been a terrible dream. Clinton will have made a miraculous comeback... Or maybe you just hallucinated all of this. Yeah, maybe you've all collectively lost so many hours of sleep that you're just confused. No way

Mr. P*ssy-Grabber has his "very big" hands on the nuclear launch codes.

3. Canada's nice this time of year.

Canada seems like a wonderful place, with Justin Trudeau and the pandas he hangs out with. Oh, and tickets to Sweden seem pretty cheap! Going to New Zealand and living as a Hobbit doesn't sound like the worst thing in the world. At least you'll have two breakfasts. Elevenses would be worth the cost of a ticket to New Zealand, right?

Maybe you could go to Antarctica. Penguins seem pretty cool. It's worth the cold. Maybe in Antarctica you won't have a good enough Internet access to even know what's happening to the world.

4. Recount? Let there be a recount.

The polls said this wouldn't happen. Of course, the polls could be wrong. But today would be a great time for them to be right. There has to be a recount. What if the machine weren't working at the polling station yesterday? What if someone's votes didn't get counted?

Clinton won the popular vote. This could all be

wrong. A computer program messed up. Mine messed up on the daily. Florida was just one percent. So was Pennsylvania. There's going to be a recount, and then Clinton will win, and things will go right back to normal.

5. The snooze button

The snooze button seems to exist for a day like this. You don't want to wake up because you were up too late last night worrying about this. You don't want to know that you're waking up in a world where such an outrageous human is the president of the United States.

So you snooze. Not the usual five times, but a new high of 14 times. You can't go to class now and pretend like everything's normal and that the biggest worry in your life is how you're going to finish that nine-page paper.

6. Facebook rage

Obviously, instead of waking up and actually doing anything, you lie there scrolling through Facebook. Facebook is like an echo chamber. The only views you see are the ones you share, for the most part. You're about to open the status bar that you

haven't touched for months and actually answer Facebook's "What's on your mind?"

A lot of things are on my mind, Facebook. A lot of things. Except, there's nothing you can say right now to change anything that happened. Scrolling through the posts, you see your friends already said everything you'd want to say. So you keep scrolling, and you wonder what on earth Bernie Sanders is going to say about this at MSE.

7. Acceptance... ish

It happened. It doesn't feel real, but it is. Who knows what's going to happen from here on out? A part of me is still clinging desperately to the possibility of a recount because someone somewhere made a terrible mistake.

Things are really going to change, aren't they? I'm going to graduate and exit the liberal college bubble into a world where the U.S. President thinks that climate change is a hoax perpetrated by the Chinese and that the best way to solve problems is by building walls instead of tearing them down. I could get deported.

I really wanted to end this on a message of hope — that we can stick together and hold out for just four years and work on reducing the ignorance that allowed this to happen.

The truth is, in all my 18 years, I've never been as uncertain of my future.

Shout Outs

Shout out to my Linear Algebra professor:

You are the sweetest lady out there. Thanks for understanding about my homework and my continuing bout of freshman plague.

– Gonna turn it in eventually, I promise

Shout out to all the people working the polls on election day:

You've got way more patience than I do, and I really commend you for it! You're helping to carry out the cornerstone of our democratic process and should feel proud doing so!

– I Voted

Shout out to the aggressively punctual construction workers at Homewood:

I was not planning to wake up at 6 a.m. today (or yesterday or the day before that), but you made it happen.

– Please let me sleep

Shout out to the people who voted Trump:

Thanks a lot.

– The United States of America

Shout out to the baby snake just chillin':

You were super cute and I want you to know that.

– I hope no one steps on you

Shout out to all Americans:

Good luck.

– Someone with dual citizenship

Why I love the birthday and Monty Hall paradoxes



Sudgie Ma
Math Problems

No pain, no gain is an accurate statement when it comes to my Intro to Probability class. I've learned a ton of interesting things that might initially seem counterintuitive, but make sense when you pull them apart and examine them closely.

The Birthday Problem is an example of something that shocked me when I first learned about it in lecture. The problem simply asks how many people would need to be in a room for there to be a high chance of two people's birthdays matching up.

You're probably thinking more than 365 or 366 people, seeing as there are that many possible birthdays out there. That's exactly what I thought and what most people think upon hearing this question.

However, it turns out that you only need 70 people in a room for there to be a 99.9 percent possibility that two people's birthdays will match up, and 23 people for there to be a 50.7 percent chance of a match occurring. That's right, there's a good chance two people have the same birthday in your calculus section, and

a good chance that many pairs of people will have the same birthday in your calculus lecture class.

We actually simulated this experiment during lecture by having people announce their birthdays one by one and move to the center of the room if they shared a birthday with someone else.

We had 10 pairs of people with the same birthday, as well as a triple (that is, three people sharing the same birthday). For reference, my lecture class has approximately 110 people, and I was floored by these results. More than 20 people were involved in this birthday-sharing business.

It turns out the results in lecture were actually lower than expected. For a class of 110 people, there should've been 16 pairs of people who had the same birthday. The one triple was to be expected as well (although two triples would've been standard, considering the exact value for the expected number of a triple to arise was 1.62, not exactly one or two).

Now that I'm thinking about it again, I actually belonged to a triple birthday group in my high school in a class of about 196 kids. And the fact that I myself actually belong to that group makes the concept feel more real to me.

Since learning about the math behind the Birthday Problem, coincidences involving birthdays no longer have the same wow factor for me anymore. For example, I'm no longer astounded that my suitemate actually shares the same birthday as my dad.

Another interesting problem that seems initially contradictory at first is

the Monty Hall problem, which became famously associated with the game show "Let's Make a Deal," hosted by Monty Hall.

The problem involves trying to choose the one door (out of three) that contains the prize of an expensive car. The other two doors have goats within. We can definitely agree that so far, there's a one-third chance of choosing the door with the desirable prize of the car.

But in the show, Monty Hall throws the contestant in for a twist by then opening one of the two doors not chosen, revealing a goat. (The door that he opens is always one that reveals a goat.) He then asks the contestant whether or not they'd like to switch to the remaining closed door, or if they stand by their original choice.

This is where the Monty Hall problem got controversial. Mathematicians argued with each other whether or not switching or staying actually mattered; Many argued that it didn't matter because no matter what, your chances were 0.50

(split between the two remaining doors), but some argued that switching provided better chances.

One such mathematician who argued this was Marilyn vos Savant, who came under massive criticism and was even insulted after trying to defend this position.

For me, it seemed completely intuitive and obvious that the choice to switch or stay didn't matter. However, vos Savant was in fact correct: Switching actually bumped a contestant's chances up to 0.67, and staying meant the contestant's chances would stay at its original 0.33.

It turns out that when Hall would open one door to reveal a goat, that door's chances of having a car would become zero, and its one-third chance would essentially be transferred over to the door not chosen, so the door not chosen would then have a two-thirds chance of containing the car.

Yes, probability can be completely counterintuitive, but learning about those counterintuitive cases is part of the fun.



SYNX508/ CC BY-NC 2.0
The birthday paradox demonstrates the complexities of probability.

the johns hopkins

NEWS-LETTER

Editorials

Supporting the protesters at
Standing Rock

Construction of the 1,170-mile Dakota Access Pipeline was officially approved by the U.S. federal government in Aug. 2016. Talks about the \$3.7 billion project actually began back in 2014, but it remained outside of mainstream media coverage until recent weeks. It escalated particularly following the arrest of actress Shailene Woodley during an Oct. 10 protest at the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe Reservation in North Dakota.

If constructed, it would carry oil from the Bakken Formation, one of the largest U.S. oil and natural gas deposits located at the border of Montana, North Dakota and Canada. In addition to North Dakota, it would transport oil to South Dakota, Iowa and Illinois.

Controversy surrounds the pipeline's construction due to both cultural and environmental concerns. The pipeline is set to cross just north of Standing Rock and plunges under a dammed section of the Missouri River, which is the tribe's primary water source.

Therefore, a spill or break in the pipeline would pose imminent threats on the tribal community. Although the land is not owned by the tribe, it includes sacred burial grounds and significant cultural artifacts that are mercilessly being bulldozed.

The Editorial Board believes the pipeline would be only a continuation of the American tradition of imperialism and exploitation of indigenous peoples.

In the Oct. 13 issue of *The News-Letter*, the Editorial Board recognized the importance of Indigenous People's Day to pay respect to the Native Americans that currently live in the United States and still face the same injustices their ancestors did hundreds of years ago.

While the government ignores these demands and fails to acknowledge the dark facts of the past, the Editorial Board supports efforts by Americans to finally ally themselves with the indigenous community and mobilize.

Politically, the pipeline represents a continuation of the federal government's disastrous relations with the Native American community. The Editorial Board calls on the government to consider indigenous people's demands and not look the other way.

Two weeks ago, the governor of North Dakota called on the National Guard to contain protesters in encampments around the reservation and construction sites. Following a narrative

all too common, Native Americans are desperately fighting for the right to use their sacred lands, while the government quickly militarizes when the community shows signs of resistance.

Tension continues to build as construction of the pipeline moves forward and police have reacted with violence against protesters, something we are familiar with as residents of Baltimore. Over 400 protesters have been arrested since August.

The Editorial Board agrees that continuing the construction of the pipeline would further infringe on the rights of Native Americans, when the government should be working to mend these already tattered relationships. It is important that we ally ourselves with what little of the indigenous population remains and formally recognize their sovereignty.

The construction of the pipeline reinforces the country's dependence on fossil fuels when we should be moving away from dirty energy. 21st century jobs will be in green energy, not pipeline construction.

The Editorial Board calls on students and members of the community to stand against DAPL and with indigenous protesters and their allies.

Second diversity roadmap
demonstrates real progress

University President Ronald J. Daniels released a new version the the Roadmap on Diversity and Inclusion to the Hopkins community on Friday, Nov. 4. Updating an earlier draft created last February, the revised document responds to student and faculty feedback and to the demands presented by the Black Student Union (BSU) last November.

The Roadmap focuses on four main goals: achieving greater diversity of membership in the Hopkins community, improving opportunity for community members of all backgrounds, enabling robust engagement with diverse viewpoints and fostering a climate of respect.

The release of this updated roadmap reflects the University's willingness to listen to student input and highlights its new approach to open and transparent discourse with the student body. The Editorial Board commends the University for its clear commitment to improving life at Hopkins.

The new version also offer plans for program-

ming on diversity, race and the University's troubled history as well as community engagement in Baltimore through partnerships with local public schools, economic programs and service-based courses.

In an effort to make the campus climate one that values respect and inclusion, the University plans to improve training programs and provide resources for students who wish to voice complaints and offer cultural competency programs and create a Homewood diversity council.

Demonstrating its commitment to taking student input seriously, the final draft of the Roadmap also includes in its appendices a copy of the BSU's demands calling for faculty diversity, cultural competency and recognition of the Center for Africana Studies as a department. The Editorial Board supports this decision because it recognizes that the critical role of the BSU throughout the process,

The University plans to reexamine its recruitment and retention practices,

expand multicultural and LGBT programs, improve counseling services, increase access to graduate programs and offer networking opportunities for grad students. Hopkins also plans to create a Commission on Undergraduate Education and a committee on centers and programs in KSAS.

The Faculty Diversity Initiative lays out plans for reworking recruitment practices and faculty mentoring programs and offering new programs and awards. In terms of staff, the Roadmaps lays out plans to increase the number of entry-level positions, offer assistance with career advancement and improve employee benefits.

Lastly, the Roadmap includes a Key Dates section outlining the status of various programs and providing explanations for why certain projects have been delayed, paused or restructured. The University has shown that it does value the responses of its community members, and the Editorial Board hopes that Hopkins will continue to be transparent in the future.

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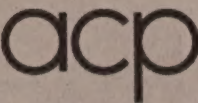
COPY STAFF: Peter Ji, Karen Sheng

The News-Letter
The Gatehouse
(on the corner of N. Charles Street
and Art Museum Drive)

The Johns Hopkins News-Letter is published every Thursday during the academic year by the undergraduate students of The Johns Hopkins University with the exception of holidays, exam periods and vacations. The views expressed herein, including opinions and columns, do not necessarily represent those of the editorial board. All submissions become property of *The News-Letter* and will be included on *The News-Letter's* website, www.jhnewsletter.com.

Business hours are Mondays through Fridays, 1-5 p.m. The deadline for advertisements is 5 p.m. on the Monday before the Thursday of publication. The total circulation to the local campuses of Johns Hopkins (Homewood, Medical School and Hospital, Peabody), area colleges and the greater Baltimore region is 5,000.

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OPINIONS

Stay politically active after the election

By MIA BERMAN

Originally intended for this op-ed to have a much more positive perspective on the outcome of the election and what we could all do going forward. Given the results of the election, I am no longer nearly as optimistic as I was before about the state of our nation. However, I realize that this does not change the importance of the message of my original op-ed. If anything, for those of us that were devastated by Tuesday night, I believe this message is more important than ever before.

In many ways, this election has brought out the worst on both sides. I believe most would agree that this is one of the most divisive elections in our history. Facebook arguments have devolved into insults, name-calling and blocking those who disagree with us. This voluntary censorship, however, is a dangerous road to embark on.

When we block or unfriend those we disagree with, we are hiding from alternative viewpoints, closing the door on future discussion.

Furthermore, we are lying to ourselves and hiding in a fantasy world where everyone has similar opinions. We do not all agree, and it is important to be reminded of that once in a while, as frustrating as it can be. On Tuesday night, I saw far too many people asking Trump supporters to unfriend them.

All of the polls made us complacent in the idea that Hillary would win. Perhaps it is important to have these voices remind us that the polls may be incorrect.

This is not to say that if you are personally being targeted for your identity, and not just your beliefs, that you should not feel comfortable protecting yourself by unfriending someone. If the issue is simply political ideology, or if they are attacking an identity that you are not a member of, you cannot filter out half the country.

It is our obligation to speak up for and defend those who

may not feel safe doing so themselves.

After the election is over, many people will go back to ignoring politics. We cannot let this happen. Apathy is what allowed this election to reach the state that it has. If you did not like your choices in this election, volunteer for a candidate in the next election. Find a candidate you like, trusts and can support, and then help them by doing whatever you can: donating, phone banking, canvassing, etc.

As members of a democracy, we do have a voice but only if we use it. Waiting until the month before an election to care about the result is simply too late.

Can't volunteer? Vote in the primaries. According to Pew Research, only around 28.5 percent of estimated eligible voters voted in the primaries this year. This smaller percentage tends to be the extremists on both sides.

If we, as a nation, want to see more middle of the road, reasonable candidates, then we must not allow the parties to be hijacked by the radicals on both sides. Paying attention to and voting in the primaries can help ensure that the best of both parties are up for election.

As a nation, we all benefit when the candidates are both decent options. Otherwise, both sides are put into a fear-induced state and convinced that the results of the election will mean the end of the world. Sound familiar?

Besides voting in just the presidential primaries, it is important to vote in every election and primary. State politics tends to have more of an impact on our everyday lives. They control redistricting, state budgets, state education, state taxes and so much more. These elections affect our day-to-day lives more than a presidential election ever can.

It is important that we vote in the midterm elections, the local elections, the elections that do not run concurrently with the presidential elections and

those elections that are more often and in between. Make your voice heard more than once every four years.

Just as importantly, we cannot afford to ignore politics until the next election comes around. Minds take time to change, and when it is finally election season, most people cannot be persuaded. If you are passionate about an issue, make it known.

Engage in those hard conversations and see if you can find that middle ground with someone you disagree with, or help them to better understand your position. Trust me, it is not a fun process. Some people cannot handle reasoned and rational discussions, but that does not give us an excuse not to try. It is our obligation as members of a democracy to ensure that our peers are educated and engaged.

So where do we go from here? First, as funny as it is to joke about leaving the United States, please do not actually follow through. This country needs you now more than ever. Second, I am not asking you to share 20 articles a day on your page, nor am I asking you to get in flame wars under every post you disagree with. Rather, I am requesting that we, as a nation, are no longer afraid of having these difficult conversations and hoping that we can manage to do so in a respectful and logical manner.

Use facts, link to articles (and if you wouldn't feel comfortable potentially using the article in a paper for school then it probably is not a justifiable source), do not name call or switch topics to "gain an advantage," and most of all, be willing to question yourself and your beliefs, and be willing to admit that the other side might, occasionally, be right.

This election cycle has proven that we can no longer afford to be apathetic. If you believe that this election was a mess, then learn from this election, get involved, use your voice and vote.

Mia Berman is a junior International Studies major from Hopkins, Minn.

Sanders event ticketing was poorly planned and timed



On Nov. 17, Sen. Bernie Sanders will speak at a joint MSE-FAS event in Shriver Hall.

By GILLIAN LELCHUK

Bernie Sanders is coming to Hopkins on Nov. 17 as part of both MSE's and FAS's speaker series. Sanders is the most prominent speaker the symposiums have brought to campus in recent years, and in anticipation of a large crowd and an intense security situation, the University required the groups to dole out free tickets to the event.

These tickets were reserved online through JHU Tickets, and they became available on Sunday, Nov. 6 at 5 p.m. Innumerable Hopkins students and possibly some general admittees took to their computers and hit that "checkout" button faster than we try to for course registration.

After clicking that button, I was directed to my cart and saw a message claiming that my ticket was reserved for the next 20 minutes. But on the next screen, a message popped up claiming that the quantities in the cart were too great or that the event was sold out.

Obviously, one ticket was not greater than the limit, and how could the event be sold out if that ticket was supposedly reserved

in my cart for 20 minutes?

In the end, I did get a ticket. After a friend told me to just frantically click the checkout button over and over until it went through, I now have a ticket to see Bernie Sanders speak. However, I'm in the minority.

Some students gave up after their purchases didn't go through the first time, thus forfeiting their reservations. Some students were just too late and missed their chance. Regardless of why they don't have a ticket, students are frustrated by the process and irritated by the lack of organization for standby tickets and overflow rooms.

According to the event page on Facebook, there will be an overflow room in Hodson 110, where the event will be live streamed. Everyone who goes to the overflow room as well as to Shriver will receive a copy of Sanders' book, *Our Revolution*. Event coordinators will also begin admitting people without tickets to fill empty seats in Shriver at 6:30 p.m. on the night of the symposium.

Ticket distribution for this event was completely necessary, but it was quite disorganized. FAS and MSE cannot be blamed for overloading the server, but technical difficulties resulting from a large amount of people trying to get tickets probably should have been expected. Maybe they could have used another system to distribute tickets, but now they should focus on enabling as many people as they can to listen to Senator Sanders speak.

Especially after the American people elected Donald Trump to the nation's highest political office, it is especially important that we, the future of this country, listen to a diverse selection of political opinions. Listening to Sanders speak in person is an incredible opportunity, and I want to thank FAS, MSE and everyone involved who made this possible. Now I only hope that you can continue to make this possible for all of the students, faculty and citizens of Baltimore who couldn't get tickets to the event.

Adding more overflow rooms is one solution that will allow students to passively listen to Sanders speak. However, I hope the event coordinators think of alternative solutions that would allow more students to engage with Sanders. That could mean finding a different location with a capacity for greater numbers of attendees, or it could mean introducing a way to submit questions from one of the overflow rooms.

Regardless of how disorganized the ticket distribution was for this event, I hope it will bring students together in a time of such political divisiveness. And I hope MSE and FAS will continue to bring such diverse and opinionated speakers to their symposiums.

Gillian Lelchuk is a junior Writing Seminars and Mathematics double major from Los Alamitos, Calif. She is the Opinions Editor.

JHU Snap of campus security guard ignites controversy

By TOMMY KOH

Last week on Nov. 4, JHU Snaps on Facebook returned from its hiatus with post #1042, a screenshot of a security officer apparently sleeping on the job and the caption "Keeping the lib real safe."

Within seven minutes, the Facebook post attracted an urgent comment about how the public nature of the post may place the officer's job in jeopardy with calls for it to be taken down. This comment garnered 47 likes at the time of writing.

Another student further suggested that "posting this stuff (was) the reason JHU Snaps got taken down for a bit before," something that a Facebook group administrator disputed.

While the empathy toward the officer in question is heartening, the instinct to hide and bury a problem in fear of its consequences is concerning. It is exactly when small and easy problems are hidden from view that large and complex problems emerge in their place. On issues such as security where one lapse is all it takes to injure or harm, we must collaborate to increase our expectations of accountability.

The first thing we must ask ourselves is whether the behavior in question was acceptable. There are many considerations, but by a general societal standard, a majority would likely agree that any security officer sleeping on the job is unacceptable. After all, the

very purpose of such an officer being present is to offer protection, something which cannot be offered when the officer is mentally (or physically) absent.

Consider for a moment walking through a silent TSA checkpoint where all the officers are sleeping. How safe can one feel when those tasked with ensuring safety have clearly checked out? And even if safety is not compromised, what exactly are we paying these TSA agents to do?

The next thing we must ask ourselves is who should take responsibility for this lapse. This must not solely lie with the officer in question. The front-line officer is but the last line of defense in a larger security enterprise.

Here, the questions we ask must be related to systems and organizations. These include whether our front-line officers are getting adequate rest breaks, whether supervisors who are checking in are doing so in a timely and consistent manner and whether everyone involved is trained to respond appropriately both to routine procedural matters and to emergency situations. It is only by strengthening these procedures that we can create a robust and adaptable framework that makes security relevant and keeps us safe.

When one considers a machine as complex as security services, special attention must be paid to the nuts and bolts to ensure that crucial gears are well-oiled and redundant ones are removed or replaced. Campus Safety and Security often assures us that campus is safe and that an entire team of officers is here for our protection. Our community can and should have good cause to believe that we are safe.

However, along with the assurance that our own responsible decisions are being supported by multiple layers of added protection, it is also pertinent to ask if those who protect us are similarly being protected and given the tools and support necessary to do their job well.

This does not suggest that a public JHU Snaps post parodying or ridiculing lapses in security is the most effective way to ensure that our community remains responsive and accountable. If problems are systemic rather than individual, the termination of an officer's employment will not solve any problems. To create incentives for a witch-hunt promotes a culture of distrust and runs counter to the collaboration within the community that is necessary to maximize safety.

If such a system doesn't al-

ready exist, Campus Safety and Security may want to consider an amnesty scheme popularized in commercial aviation where pilots can report fatigue-related lapses without penalty. In our case, allowing both security officers to self-report and community members to indirectly report will allow for a more realistic portrayal of the on-ground situation and provide the impetus for greater system-level support.

The simple reality is that the students who called for Snap #1042 to be removed and, in doing so, for the issue swept under the rug, had an easy ask because nothing happened. There was no incident on Nov. 4 that required the officer in question to respond. In all likelihood, the officer was awake soon after the Snap was taken. But to what extent should such incidents be tolerated?

If a culture that tolerates such lapses pervades not just the organizational level (security services) but also the mentalities of constituents that these organizations serve (students), whose feet will accountability ultimately lie at? One can only hope that it does not lie at the feet of a victim of a crime, a victim not just of an opportunistic perpetrator but of an unravelling of the very layers intended to protect when something does happen.

Tommy Koh is a junior in the departments of Political Science, Psychology and Social Policy. This piece is part of a biweekly feature titled "Change and Continuity: Insights into our Hopkins Community."

It is exactly when small and easy problems are hidden from view that large and complex problems emerge in their place.

PHOTO ESSAY

"We may encounter
many **DEFEATS**,
but we must **not**
be **DEFEATED**"

- Maya
Angelou

By Amanda Auble

THE B SECTION

YOUR WEEKEND • ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT • CARTOONS, ETC. • SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY • SPORTS

NOVEMBER 10, 2016

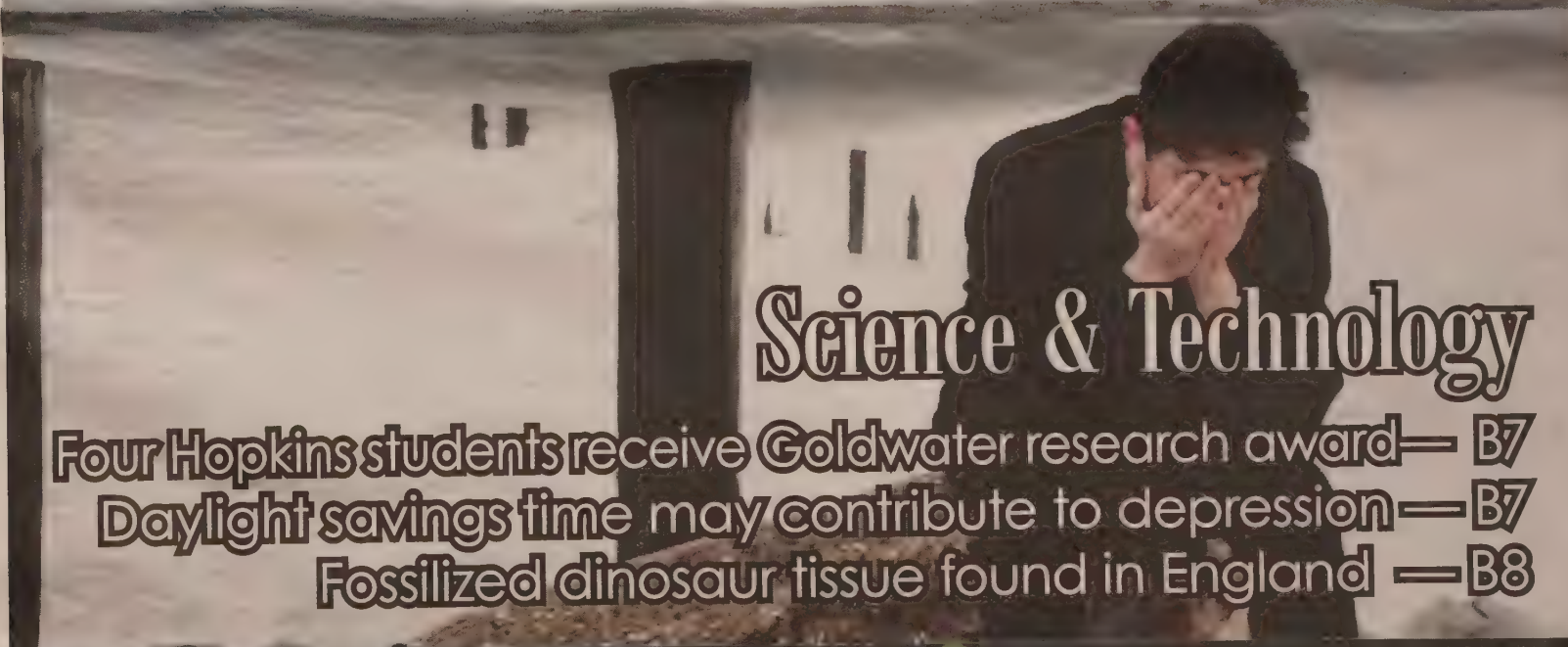


Arts & Entertainment

Local rapper Son of Nun marries activism and music — B3

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Sports

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M. soccer loses in semi-finals to Franklin & Marshall — B12

YOUR WEEKEND NOVEMBER 10-13

Events in Baltimore this weekend Three fun ways to celebrate Friendsgiving

Thursday

Amplified Cactus iii: can I thrive in a pathological environment, Spirits of Mt. Vernon, 8 p.m. — 10 p.m.

Visual art, music and literary art combined to answer the title question of the event. It is part iii of a vi part series. RSVP at amplifiedcactus.com.

Friday

Last House Standing: A Play About the Highway to Nowhere, Arena Players, Inc., 8 p.m.

This play centers around a family who lives on the west side of Baltimore in 1968, when a failed transportation project forces residents out. \$13 in advance for students, \$18 at door.

Emo Night Bawltimore, Ottobar, 9 p.m. — 2 a.m.

The Ottobar has more secrets than you'll ever know... including a few guests coming to hang out and play their favorite songs from all your favorite emo bands. Text your friend Maria and tell her to count you in. \$11 in advance. \$2 surcharge at the door if you are under 21.

Saturday

No Shame November // Mental Health, Red Emma's Bookstore Coffeehouse, 11 a.m. — 1 p.m.

Come join the conversation surrounding mental health in our communities. This event is meant to help put an end to the shaming of such topics by openly discussing them in a safe space. Everyone is encouraged to attend and speak openly. Free.

Benefit for Standing Rock, Fifth Dimension, 6 p.m. — 12 a.m.

The Fifth Dimension has put together a huge benefit show with many performers and speakers to help fund the purchase of expensive cold-weather equipment needed for the Water Protectors at Standing Rock. \$20 ideal donation, \$5 - \$10 donation at door. All proceeds will be donated to anti-pipeline demonstrators and water protectors through Gray's Manor Farm.

Sunday

The Royal Tenenbaums: A Live Reading, Space 2640, 6:30 p.m. — 9 p.m.

Join the JHU Film Society for a live reading of Wes Anderson and Owen Wilson's screenplay featuring an all-star cast of Baltimore artists. \$5 cash only at door. No advance ticket sales, seating is limited and first-come, first-serve.

By HANNAH MELTON
For The News-Letter

Thanksgiving break is fast approaching. With many students leaving the Thursday or Friday before, this weekend is likely your best shot at doing a "Friendsgiving" before everyone scatters to the winds. Here, we give you some suggestions on how to build the perfect Friendsgiving based on your personal #squad-goals.

For the DIY types:

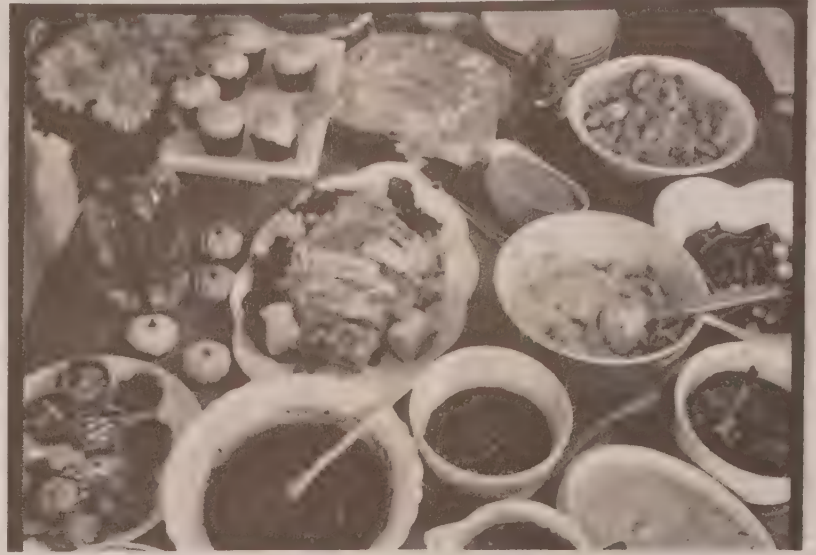
You're authentic. You love homemade jams, frequent the farmers' market every weekend and cannot WAIT to bake that newest Pinterest pie recipe. Maybe you're into building things or making cards or just really love quirky antique shops where you can buy old decor that needs a bit of sprucing.

You're in luck — Friendsgiving is the perfect opportunity to tell your pals you're grateful to them for putting up with your incessant watching of Tasty videos on YouTube and insistence that everyone dress up for high tea.

Start by building your menu. *The New York Times* food section offers an incredible array of holiday recipes, and their "Build Your Feast" option lets you pull together mains, sides and pies to match the culinary needs of your guests, making it easy to feed that vegetarian friend well this holiday.

The NYT knows you could use a refresher (or just plain lesson) on how to best roast brussels sprouts or make cranberry sauce. The "Cooking Guide" videos at the bottom of the site are invaluable. Find these and more at cooking.nytimes.com/thanksgiving.

After you've picked the perfect dishes, design your table. Harken back to the days of juvenile bliss with paper chains in warm leaf colors or cut out a few tur-



BRENNIA VIA FLICKR CC-BY-2.0

Few things can beat a dinner shared with friends, whether it's home-cooked or out on the town.

keys you made by tracing your hand. Need a table cloth? Hit up Goodwill. Some holiday hokey or heavily laced cloth will do.

Place markers are key to a classy affair: Design some small autumnal table tents with your guests' names on them. Want to get really into it? Pick up some twine or pretty ribbon to tie it around wine (or sparkling cider) glasses. And, of course, don't forget a few strategically placed candles for ambiance. Your friends will sing your praises even at their family Thanksgiving dinner.

For the atypical types:

You're progressive, tend to question authority and hate cheesy holidays. Sick of the old turkey-and-pie routine, the one thing you're really looking forward to over break is not having to do your laundry and catching up on Netflix documentaries you've missed. Never fret: You too can enjoy a nice Friendsgiving, sans-squash and all.

There are a few ways you can approach this depending on A) how much money you want to spend, B) how much time you have and C) how big your

stomach is. For those on a bit more of a budget, create a list of restaurants with cuisine you've never tried: Malaysian, Ethiopian, Polish, Greek, Peruvian or Thai; whatever sounds weird and exciting. From there, use a random number generator to pick which one you'll feast at with friends.

If money is no issue (or you just want to #treatyoself), pick several places. Go to one for apps and a drink for the 21+ crowd, the next for your mains and the final for a dessert destination. You'll see a lot of the city and enjoy some unique new foods with great friends. It's a lovely way to show you're thankful for them putting up with your constant complaints about the lack of variety on St. Paul Street.

For the altruistic ones:

You go to a good school and you know it. Thanksgiving is one of your favorite times of year because you really are thankful for everything you have. You tend to spend part of the holiday volunteering with your family, friends, church group or scout troop and would love to share this experience with

your Hopkins squad.

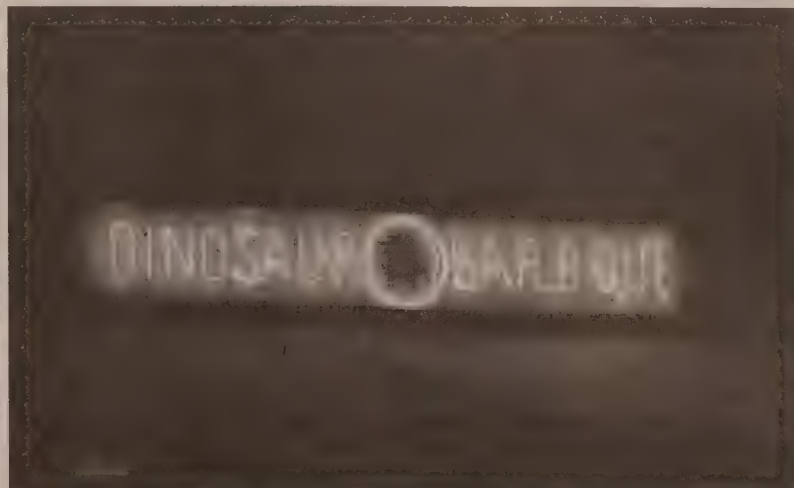
Gather the team one morning and head out for a day of giving back. Baltimore has many volunteer opportunities across the city. Places like Manna House, Beans & Bread and Our Daily Bread are constantly looking for extra hands.

Our Daily Bread is especially in need of volunteers during their weekday breakfast shifts. No Friday class? All it takes to get involved is a simple email sent to volunteerodbec@cc-md.org.

Religious institutions not your style? Don't fret. The Maryland Food Bank is also seeking help and offers a simple web application for individuals and groups to sign up for volunteer slots. Simply search "MD Food Bank Baltimore. Volunteer" or email volunteer@mdfoodbank.org for more information.

However you spend Friendsgiving, whether up to your elbows in casseroles, exploring exciting new eateries, serving hot food at a soup kitchen or just hanging out, enjoy some time this weekend with those who make Hopkins feel like home.

Dinosaur Bar-B-Que offers a taste of Syracuse



JOSE VALCARCEL VIA FLICKR CC-BY-NC-SA-2.0

Each restaurant in the Dinosaur BBQ chain, which originated in Syracuse, bears this logo above its doors.

By SIMON BOHN
For The News-Letter

There's a hit 1987 song by the band Was (Not Was) and the chorus goes a little like this: "Open the door/get on the floor/everybody walk the dinosaur." I don't think it's worth trying to figure out what "walking the dinosaur" means, but it is certainly worth your while to check out Dinosaur Bar-B-Que in Harbor East.

The restaurant in Bal-

timore is the ninth and southernmost outpost of this excellent Syracuse, N.Y.-based regional chain. Dino BBQ offers all the standard barbecue meats (pulled pork, brisket, ribs, chicken) in addition to some more adventurous options like pork belly, smoked sausage and even vegetarian options in the form of a fried green tomato sandwich.

I decided to stick to the basics and ordered a half rack of ribs with sides of collard greens

and salt potatoes. The ribs were good, smoky and falling-off-the-bone but not dry.

That said, it was the sides that blew me away. For the uninitiated, so-called "Syracuse Style" salt potatoes are potatoes boiled in brine.

The theory is that the salt forms a crust around the small potatoes, allowing them to be cooked longer and become tender without making them soggy. Where I'm from (which is about an hour from Syra-

cuse) grocery stores sell four-pound bags of potatoes bundled with a pound of salt.

Dino BBQ's salt potatoes lived up to the high standard set by my childhood summertime barbecues, and it was a wonderful surprise to find them on the menu. The collard greens were tangy and were packed with smoked turkey neck, giving them surprising substance.

Dino BBQ also has a top-notch selection of beers for those who are of the legal age. I tried a Kentucky bourbon barrel ale, which was honestly one of the weirdest beers I've ever had. It had a smoky taste not present in most beer that would have been great in isolation but when combined with smoked barbecue meats was overwhelming.

Next time, I might try something a bit lighter — and with 20 beers on tap, there are certainly enough options. The best way to get to Dinosaur Bar-B-Que from Homewood is to take the Purple Route of the Charm City Circulator to the Inner Harbor and walk about 15 minutes to their location in Harbor East.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Local socially conscious rapper talks activism



COURTESY OF S.O.N.

Local rapper Son Of Nun (or S.O.N.) plays an important role in the community as an activist and musician.

By **WILL KIRSCH**
Staff Writer

You might not know who Son of Nun is and, to be honest, neither did I until about a month ago. That is more likely a result of our personal failings as sheltered college students, though, because in both the Baltimore music scene and amongst the city's revolutionary movements, his name carries some weight.

I first encountered him at one of the thousands of West Wednesdays, a local protest in memory of police brutality victim Tyrone West. What drew me in was the name: Son of Nun or S.O.N. I had no idea what it meant, but I wanted to know more about the person wielding it. So, when I returned to the Hopkins Bubble, I took to the Internet with gusto.

I learned that Son of Nun was both a rapper and an activist, a musician who has shared the

stage with Prophets of Rage, Dead Prez and Immortal Technique and has walked the streets in protest with a number of Baltimore's revolutionary movements.

Nevertheless, all that was on his website was not quite enough for me. Anyways, using someone's website to create a profile on them would be horrible journalism, so I got in touch with S.O.N. to see if he was interested in an interview — and here we are.

Originally from Silver Spring, Md., S.O.N. came to Baltimore to teach high school after graduating from the University of Maryland-Baltimore County. It was there that he became involved in activism after seeing an HBO documentary about incarcerated black journalist and former Black Panther Party member Mumia Abu-Jamal.

"He [Abu-Jamal] not only talked about his own situation, but connected a

lot of dots for me in terms of where inequality comes from and how it impacts people on an international level," he said.

Hip-hop was always a presence in his life, but when he entered high school, he delved more into other genres as well.

"I started with reggae and then I got in to rock and all different sorts. I'd say I was always into music that had a message," he said. "It wasn't the only thing I'd listen to, but it definitely struck a chord."

In college, S.O.N. was Director of Cultural Activities for UMBC's Black Student Union. After graduation, he joined the Campaign to End the Death Penalty. S.O.N. said that part of what drew him to the organization was their "Live From Death Row" events, where death row inmates called in to the gathering to talk about life as the living dead.

S.O.N. began teaching in Baltimore City, working at both Northern and Southwestern High School. He eventually left in 2005 after deciding that he would be able to achieve more outside the classroom.

He wanted to work with

youth-led groups, like the Baltimore Algebra Project, a branch of an organization which was founded by Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) alum Bob Moses. By leaving the classroom, S.O.N. was able to advocate more openly. In the same year that he quit teaching, he released his first album, *Blood and Fire*.

"When I started making music, I wanted to make music that I wanted to hear," S.O.N. said. For him, these were groups like Burning Spear, Public Enemy and Bob Marley and the Wailers, music across the genres that carried a message. The message he wanted to send was a call to resist the status quo.

Part of that drive to create was born of a growing uniformity in hip-hop during the late 1990s, born of the young white consumer's demand for a pre-fabricated image and persona from musicians. Such a trend still dictates much of hip-hop's sound today.

"A lot of those people, in my opinion, who did have that power had a certain idea about what young black men and women should be interested in terms of hip-hop," he said.

Three years after *Blood and Fire* came *The Art of Struggle*. That was S.O.N.'s most recent full-length album, although he has been releasing additional singles and collaborating with other artists.

In April of 2016, S.O.N. was invited by Jared A. Ball, founder of emancipatory journalism, to work alongside director Bashi Rose on *George Jackson: Releasing the Dragon*, a video mixtape about the life of the black revolutionary.

S.O.N. said that in addition to addressing issues and fighting for equality, he likes to think of some of his music as being "after the revolution."

"If it's always a reaction to something the

SEE S.O.N., PAGE B5

Bond St. District pull together holy album

By **NIKITA SHTARKMAN**
For *The News-Letter*

Bond St. District, a group made up of rapper DDm (aka Emmanuel Williams) and producer Paul Hutson, released their first full album, *A Church on Vulcan*, on Nov. 4. The launch party was held last Saturday at the Ottobar.

I arrived at the bar at 8:30 p.m., and was directed from the front entrance to a shady, unmarked, locked side door. Disappointed, I squatted on a nearby rock for a couple of minutes, watching a man in an exciting combination of camouflage joggers and an oversized Pikachu sweatshirt pace around the venue.

Finally, I heard the loud click of a bolt being unlatched inside. After a short argument with the Fu-Manchu-bearing doorman about whether I was on the guest list, I stepped into the dark bar a few dollars lighter.

The event called for your Sunday best, so most people dressed absolutely flawlessly. Men with slicked hair and tight suits wandered around the bar sipping their drinks, while women in beautiful dresses and flamboyant church-hats strutted around.

Of course, there was a lot of digression from this prototype. There were several aged, tall, bearded men dressed in captain's hats and long-johns who hovered above the other patrons. Other notable outfits: a guy in a fur overcoat, several women in exceptionally glittery dresses and a small group donning classic Bape apparel.

The openers were as diverse as the crowd. The event followed the structure of a Christian worship service. It start-

ed with Eze Jackson, the emcee for the event, running the Call to Worship. Though his first few lines were off beat, something clicked, and he worked his way into the beat. From a rambling verse, he switched into a brutal, quick-fire delivery. While the Ottobar was mostly empty at this early point, he got that small crowd moving.

Then Blacksage came on: a small, skinny man in a suit (Drew Scott), together with a glittery, lanky, pale woman (Josephine Olivia). The music was light and airy with a very Lorde-esque tone.

Olivia whispered over the synth-heavy, drum rattling production. She had an impressive range and some very specific dance moves. If I had to use one word to describe them, I think "slither" would fit best.

Joy Postell delivered Scripture next. She lit incense and strutted across the stage. Reminiscent of early Erykah Badu, she smoothly sang over bouncing, grimy rhythms. Her pure, powerful voice was incredible live. I could see those milling about at the bar leave their drinks and wander down the steps to the stage, drawn like ants to bread crumbs.

Several people poring over their phones (myself included) let the screen lock, engrossed in her music. My favorite point of the performance was when she passed the mic into the audience and an absolutely beautiful male voice rang out, perfectly on pitch while belting some difficult, impressive trills. I craned over the throng of bobbing listeners to see who the source of such heavenly noise was. It was the man in the Pikachu sweatshirt. Small world.

SEE BOND ST., PAGE B5

A\$AP Mob highlights October music releases

By **DUBRAY KINNEY**
Arts & Entertainment Editor

October has come and gone, with a host of great music releases left in its wake. Here's a few that'll be talked about for the rest of this (short) year.

1. A\$AP Mob — *Cozy Tapes Vol. 1: Friends*

The biggest surprise of *Cozy Tapes Vol. 1* isn't how great it is, it's more so how much of a leap forward it is when compared with the first A\$AP tape (*Lords Never Worry*) was so weak outside of A\$AP Ferg's debut on "Work." Now, Ferg actually feels like the weakest member of the Mob involved with the tape (which doesn't make me feel good as a Ferg fan, especially in the wake of his lackluster album release this year).

This tape works as a strong reintroduction for the lesser-known members of Mob, such as A\$AP Nast ("Nasty's World" shows that if you give a '90s-esque beat to Nast, he'll tear through it, just like he did with "Trillmatic") or A\$AP Ant whose verse on "Yamorghini High" I already rated highly,

thus the tracks here that feature him heavily such as "London Town" or "Young N***a Living" are some of my favorites on the entire tape.

Perhaps the real winner here is A\$AP Rocky though. After his lacking sophomore album *ALLA*, this release just goes to show that he really does have one of the strongest flows in the game. Any rap fan looking to stay on top the movers and shakers of the game would do their best to give this tape a listen.

2. American Football — *American Football (LP2)*

A long time ago, before emo meant Hot Topic and *My Chemical Romance*, the Kinsella brothers from Chicago were creating melodic hardcore music that seemed like it would change the structure of rock music for years to come. Spoiler alert: It did.

The groups the brothers worked on (separately or together) include seminal emo bands like Cap'n Jazz, Owls and Owen. Yet, their greatest creation might just be American Football, who reformed a few years back for a few shows and shortly

SEE ALBUMS, PAGE B4

CultureShow brings out campus diversity

By **ANNE HOLLMULLER**
Staff Writer

The 29th annual Culture Show, sponsored by the JHU Office of Multicultural Affairs, took place last Saturday in Shriver Hall. A celebration of the diverse roots and vibrant backgrounds of the students on the Homewood Campus, the show featured performances from many Hopkins dance and a cappella groups.

Culture Show took place after CultureScape 2016, a week-long series of cultural events across the Homewood Campus. The theme of this year's events was the celebration of individuality and the ways in which all of our stories are interconnected.

Culture Show is meant to be a celebration of diverse identities on campus. According to the evening's program, "Culture Show is a collaborative showcase of artistic cultural expression celebrating the many cultures represented and embraced by Hopkins students."

It was established in 1987 as part of CultureF-

est, a tradition founded to promote understanding and appreciation of cultural differences. CultureFest has since evolved into CultureScape: a series of events that cultivate the appreciation and understanding of the many cultures at Hopkins throughout the year.

The Temps D'Afrique (TDA) African dance troupe performed a high-energy dance that included a sprint into the audience. TDA quickly had all of the Hopkins students and others seated in Shriv-

er Hall shouting and applauding.

Ketzev, the University's Jewish a cappella group, performed a medley of songs from Blink-182. Jaywalk, the University's contemporary dance team, performed a dance to Etta James' "At Last" and dedicated their segment to strong women of color like James and Beyoncé.

Hopkins Breakers performed a series of tricks and moves that had the audience cheering. They depicted the different motivations and inspirations

of breakers in the American city.

Baila!, the University's Latin dance group, performed an energetic routine. The performance included their signature song and accompanying routine. Shakti, the University's all-female Indian classical dance team, told a moving story about the survivor of an acid attack in what was perhaps the most moving performance of the night. Shakti, in tune with the evening's effort to tell meaningful stories,

SEE CULTURE, PAGE B5



COURTESY OF JHU FILIPINO STUDENTS ASSOCIATION

One of the groups that performed at this year's CultureShow, the JHU Filipino Students Association.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Things I think would replace the Humanities Center

By Mia Capobianco

1. Electron microscopes
2. A statue of Michael Bloomberg making it rain million dollar checks
3. U.S. News & World Report bribes.
4. A building dedicated to the Applied Physics Laboratory's drone research, to be named the Inhumanity Center.
5. Als designed to TA classes (RIP grad students.)
6. A copy of Ben Carson's *Think Big: Unleashing Your Potential for Excellence* for each incoming student.
7. A roadmap explaining the concept of diversity to President Daniels.

Kanal emphasizes suffering, bravery in war



Will Kirsch
The Cut-Rate Critic

War movies are a pretty big part of the American cultural milieu; We love celebrating our heroes, especially from World War Two, because, in the simplest terms, the United States was the good fighting against a clear evil. Whether or not it was that simple is not really relevant in this article because really, I'm just talking about movies.

However, the United States was not the only Allied nation in the Second World War. If it had been, it wouldn't have really been the Allies, would it? It is fairly common knowledge that we fought alongside Great Britain and its colonies along with France, but what about some of the lesser powers, the countries that do not get a nod in blockbuster movies? In this case, I speak of Poland, the nation unlucky enough to be the spark that ignited the world that went up in flames.

I do not think I am wrong in saying that the most recognition Poland has ever gotten in American culture for its war efforts was (nerd moment) *Call of Duty 3*. That is honestly a shame because (another nerd moment)

Poland's World War Two story is perhaps one of the most harrowing tales of national bravery in history.

So, you might be, but probably are not thinking, what can I do to learn of the exploits of this often forgotten Eastern European nation during one of humankind's great tests? Well, you could read a book,



PUBLIC DOMAIN

A courier poses in front of a badly damaged Italian tank after the first several days of the Warsaw Uprising.

and truthfully that might be the best idea. Alternatively, you could watch a movie. If you steer towards said alternative, might I recommend Andrzej Wajda's 1956 film *Kanal*. If you do not really care for movies, or history, or me or even my opinion, that's fine. Just humor me and read this review.

Kanal is the tale of a small unit of the Polish Home Army, which was the name of the Polish resistance movement against their Nazi occupiers. The men and women of this group are trapped in the ever-shrinking free zone of Warsaw, which was partially liberated by the

Poles during the Warsaw Uprising. They are an under-equipped people's army facing the might of what was then the most powerful military machine in the world.

So dire was their situation that really one outcome was inevitable, as the director, Wajda, makes clear in the opening five minutes. After introducing the characters one-by-one as they trudge beleaguered through the burning city, the narrator says, "Watch them closely, for these are the last hours of their lives."

Context aside, *Kanal* is hardly an action movie. It seems to fall more into

the category of survivalist thriller, one which examines how people cope with the most extreme of circumstances and how they behave toward one another when instinct demands individual survival. To understand why, one has to keep in mind that this movie was made only 11 years after the war ended. While that may seem like a long time to us, for people in mainland Europe, it was hardly anything.

Cities were still in ruins, and the scars of war were still everywhere to be seen. In fact, Wajda, the film's writer Jerzy Stefan Stawiński, and several of the actors were all veterans of the Home Army. Presumably, most of the people involved in making the film had been alive during the war. How could one make a movie that celebrates the heroism of war in a country and for a people who had just barely survived one hardly over a decade earlier?

Perhaps as a result of that, most of the movie is not set in the streets of Warsaw. Instead, it takes place in the sewers beneath the city, which served as a way for the Home Army to move around without being seen by the Germans. While that seems like a good idea, there was a bit of a problem: They were walking through sh*t. That is not figurative either — for a little more than half of this movie, the characters are wading around in literal human excrement. Not walking; wading, up to their chests at points. That single plot point takes *Kanal* beyond the status of a war movie and turns it into something more.

The fact that so much of the film is spent in the confines of a filth-filled hellhole makes it almost terrifying. The setting of the sewers carries with it a sense of claustrophobia

and the lingering threat of madness, which is ultimately the cause of the demise of several characters. In addition, the tunnels just happen to be full of semi-poisonous gas and any noise above a whisper will be met with a German handgrenade thrown down the nearest manhole.

Weirdly enough, the film's plot does make room for a love story, and I usually hate love stories, but this one was good. It helps that both characters, Sub-Lieutenant Korab and a messenger girl named Daisy, are both fairly self-possessed, strong and independent. Also, the love story is not necessarily the focus of the film — it is merely an aspect of a much broader and multifaceted conflict involving a number of characters in a number of places at a number of times. That being said, a number of places still applies only to the sewer, where each man and woman spends the last hours of their lives.

Kanal is not the sort of movie you watch to be inspired or feel patriotic. It certainly will not make you feel good or happy. However, it is an utterly shockingly and moving story of absolute suffering and extreme bravery, one which a lot of people, including myself, probably do not know much about. It is a movie which does not glorify war and does romanticize a subject which is so often softened for easy consumption.

It is intense, harrowing and fairly disgusting but also beautiful in the sense that it is a remarkable, and somewhat true, story of human perseverance. Go watch it on Kanopy, which is a database for movie buffs that Hopkins subscribes to, which is totally awesome and was the single greatest discovery of the semester for me.

Overall rating: 10/10

KANAL

Starring:
Tadeusz Janczar,
Tadeusz
Gwiazdowski,
Vladek Sheybal,
Emil Karewicz,
Stanislaw Mikulski,
Teresa Izweska
Director:
Andrzej Wajda
Run Time:
127 min.
Rotten Tomatoes:
100%

October music releases are weird and expansive

ALBUMS, FROM B3

afterward announced their intentions to pick up where they left off and record a new album. *American Football* (LP2) is the result of that, and they pick up the pieces right where they left off.

The band has a feel of channeling the emotions that we associate with preteens for a more adult audience. Some choice songs that really show how strong the album is include "Where Are We Now?" This song starts with Mike Kinsella's soft vocals and erupts into a cacophony of slow, plodding sounds. There's also the excellent cut "Give Me the Gun" which served as a pre-record release. The song

emphasizes the frantic background sounds that American Football is known for as well as the soft vocals overlaid on them.

3.) D.R.A.M. — *Big Baby D.R.A.M.*

This next one comes from an artist that Hopkins students should know well, D.R.A.M. He performed at the school during this year's inaugural JAM festival. *Big Baby D.R.A.M.* is his major label debut and will most likely be a vital release for any student following this past Tuesday's electoral results. The album, a mix of tracks focused on D.R.A.M.'s come-up and songs about feeling

great makes for an uplifting listen for everyone involved. It's hard to not sing-along with D.R.A.M. when his infectious hooks for songs like "Cash Machine" start up. There's a certain weight to the words he shouts when his flow switches with the beat, "I'm asking where you work at, what kinda car you drive".

4.) Kero Kero Bonito — *Bonito Generation*

One more happy album to finish off the list. Kero Kero Bonito is the combination of two British producers (Gus Lobban and Jamie Bulled) and a Japanese girl-group alumnus (Sarah Midori Perry). The result could

be described as the bubblegum sweetness of PC Music with a greater air of positivity about it.

Bonito Generation is the second release of the group and comes off the heels of a strong EP, *Bonito Recycling*.

If anyone doesn't think this album doesn't just melt with positivity they should listen to the track, "Picture This" (which features lyrics sang in both English and Japanese, resulting in one of the better musical moments of the year, where Perry moves from singing in Japanese to an English rap verse) or "Graduation" which features much more expressive and experimental production by Bulled and Lobban.



PUBLIC DOMAIN

Polish director Andrzej Wajda shooting a film he directed in 1974.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Bond St. District turns Ottobar into cathedral Son of Nun bridges activism and art



COURTESY OF BOND ST. DISTRICT
Bond St. District dropped their album *A Church on Vulcan* last Friday.

BOND ST., FROM B3

noise was — it was the man in the Pikachu sweat-shirt. Small world.

Chiffon was the last act — a pair consisting of a portly man in a leopard (Chase O'Hara) and a small girl with a pixie cut (Amy Reid), jamming on keyboards. Both exuded unbridled energy, dancing wildly while singing. O'Hara was most impressive, weaving his body to the pulsing, electronic beats.

"I've been working on my stage presence," he said, with limbs flying.

Then the lights dimmed. Stage hands ripped away the cloth covering some of the stage props. A backlit moon glowed near the back of the stage. A replica of the colorful arch

from the album cover appeared, and the table for the DJ was revealed to house glowing, LED colors.

The crowd parted, split in two by a burly man with a threatening flashlight. Two white-clad women with glowing wings and LED-lit skull masks started to move out across the clearing. Behind them was a big man in a white preacher suit and a gleaming bronze-silver helmet. He stood like a king, basking in the riotous applause.

On the stage behind the DJ desk, a man in a smooth silver faceless mask appeared, hands crossed. The man walking behind the girls climbed up to the stage, ripped the helmet off,

and grabbed a mic: It was DDM. The man behind the DJ desk threw off his mask to reveal himself as Paul Hutson. Bond St. District received an explosion of applause.

The lights behind the stage flashed on, projecting yellow, heavenly swirls onto the ceiling, the walls and the curtains. DDM and Hutson donned preacher hats and quickly burst into music from the album with roof-ripping energy.

The album is an innovative mix of futuristic sounds and soulful production. Hutson's beats are crazy flips of electronic riffs and synth melodies. He contrasts gritty, grimy drum sets that are reminiscent of 9th Wonder or J Dilla, with the clean, smooth electronic harmonies. It truly sounds like an extraterrestrial church service. The instrumentals sound even more impressive live, pulsing through massive speakers.

DDM ran the stage like a lord. He flows a lot like ASAP Na\$t and Ab-Soul, mixed with a clear Biggie influence. He rhymes flawlessly and effortlessly. But DDM is no simple rapper. His lyrics weave social issues with subtle braggadocio and many references to Baltimore. One could compare him to Tupac — combining frank, emotional content, with hard, powerful delivery.

"Technicolor," one of the first songs they performed, is a standout from the album — a smooth, marimba-heavy

beat with layered with powerful verses and a strong hook.

The real highlight of the show though, was when "Show Me Your Hands" blasted from the huge Ottobar speakers. DDM got the whole audience bouncing and waving their arms. People were swaying and throwing the album-cover prints distributed at the front door. It felt like an actual church with DDM running service. The crowd and performers alike screamed the hallelujahs in the chorus passionately into the air.

A Church on Vulcan is an impressive project on its own right, but seeing it performed live is a whole different experience. There is such a great energy and such a phenomenal power that I highly recommend people try to catch one of Bond St. District's concerts.

This article was at first supposed to be just about the new Bond St. District album, but my experience brought me a greater conclusion. This is the first local show I have gone to, and it most definitely will not be the last. Baltimore is a city brimming with such talent.

Eze Jackson said it perfectly during the concert when he yelled, "This is Baltimore city; This is our music."

I hope that some of you will join me in discovering some of the phenomenal underground work sprouting across this fascinating city.

S.O.N., FROM B3

government or whoever is doing, then they win, because they get to control how we think and all of our actions. I think it's important to say, 'This is actually what we're for, not just what we're against.'"

Despite the militant nature of his music, he says he is more than happy to debate.

As an activist, he has recently been working as an organizer for the Right to Housing Alliance in Baltimore, which fights for tenant rights and works to improve the quality of housing in the city. S.O.N. told me that last December, the organization released a report, which said that in Rent Court, seventy percent of city landlords had failed to meet lead remediation requirements.

This has left poor tenants stranded in poisonous homes. S.O.N. also said that when these tenants went to rent court and complained about the lead, vermin and mold, the judge essentially dismissed them because they had not met their monthly payment.

That report shares similarities to a study conducted in Milwaukee by Matthew Desmond of Harvard University. S.O.N. explained the importance of that study and that the Right to Housing Alliance had come to a similar conclusion in Baltimore.

"One of the conclusions he drew is that eviction is to Black women is

what mass incarceration is to Black men," S.O.N. said.

S.O.N. recently finished up a summer performance circuit which including multiple shows at Baltimore spaces such as the Crown. He performed at events such as Lightning BALT at Coppin State University. Lightning BALT was a collective solutions building event made to increase access to jobs as well as confront injustice inherent in Baltimore. It was curated/organized by the Baltimore Action Legal Team (which forms the aforementioned acronym BALT).

S.O.N. will soon be bringing his activist and musical interests together in a new video for his song "It's Like That," which was released shortly after he signed to Tom Morello and Ryan Harvey's eclectic new label, Firebrand Records, which features revolutionary artists across the genres (such as Ike Reilly, bell's roar, Built for the Sea and Lycka Till).

In the video, S.O.N. says he will try to document the efforts of some of the many Baltimore groups working to reform and better the city.

If you consider yourself to be anything left of center and are pissed off about something political, social or environmental at the moment, be on the watch for that video and future projects from Son of Nun; because he certainly has more to offer this City both in the studio and on the street.

Various clubs unite to perform in Culture Show

CULTURE, FROM B3

used classical dance to depict the struggle, suffering and perseverance of an acid attack survivor who finds the courage to tell her story and join in solidarity with other survivors.

Music Dynasty, the Johns Hopkins Chinese cappella group, performed two songs. Their very talented soloists brought to life two songs, one American pop song and one Chinese pop song.

The Filipino Student Association performed some of the traditional dance forms of the diverse history and influences on culture in the Philippines. Daring stunts involving very tall jumps kept the audience on the edge of their seats throughout the performance.

Eruption Step Team was next to perform, and the team has grown significantly in number since its debut, allowing for the sounds of the dancers' steps to fill the whole of Shriver Hall. The members of Eruption also shared some of the history and significance of step, or step dancing, and of the African and Afro-Caribbean roots of this dance form.

Young Han Lion Dance Troupe presented a tableau depicting the gang battles of American Chinatowns during the 1970s. Violent and desperately tragic, the allegorical depiction moved the students in the audience to gasps of surprise.

Lastly, Blue Jay Bhangra offered a vivid and lively performance of the dance form that originated in the province of Punjab and combines folk traditions with Western pop music. Judg-

ing from the cheers of the audience, the always crowd-pleasing Blue Jay Bhangra was an excellent choice for finishing out the night.

The emcees for the evening, Gale McFarlane and Bradley Cardona, charmed the audience and helped the show go on and took the time to remind the audience of what Culture Show and CultureScape are all about. During intermission, the two also conducted a raffle where the winners won items of Hopkins swag, including sweatshirts, hats and large blankets.

The inspiration for this year's Culture Show came from a lecture given by Hopkins alum, MacArthur Fellowship winner and acclaimed Nigerian novelist Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie's TedTalk, "Dangers of a Single Story."

In this talk, Adichie describes the "single story [creating] stereotypes."

"...The problem with stereotypes is not that they are untrue, but that they are incomplete [and] make one story become the only story," Adichie said in the talk.

The 2016 Culture Show, therefore, aims to bring the Hopkins community together by adding more diverse stories to the typical Hopkins narratives.

For those who missed the show, an HD recording will be made available on the YouTube page of the Office of Multicultural Affairs. Students were encouraged to use the #RockYourStory in posts and stories about the event. Culture Show stickers were also given out at the end of the evening.

Upcoming Albums to Look Out For

By Dubray Kinney

1. *Awaken, My Love!* by Childish Gambino (Projected for December 2016)

Rapper Childish Gambino is becoming even more well known in the wake of his successful new show, *Atlanta*, and now he's poised to make a great new album if his last release can be trusted. *Because the Internet* was a commentary on internet culture and the ways in which we react to it, and now we'll see whether he can follow up with something equally heavy. This is a project with a lot of question marks around it, however, including theories that its album art is featured in a side-shot of *Atlanta*. All that said, it's projected to come out on Dec. 2 according to Amazon Canada and AllMusic.

2. *We got it from here... Thank You 4 Your Service* by A Tribe Called Quest (Nov. 11, 2016)

If you told me a year ago that A Tribe Called Quest was releasing a new album, I would've flipped out then immediately felt saddened by the news of founding member Phife Dawg's (The Five Foot Assassin) death. Yet, a day away from the album's release and I'm feeling optimistic, especially when you look at the talent that Quest was able to pull together for this release including Kendrick Lamar, Andre 3000 and Anderson .Paak. After this week's election, I'd also be willing to be that their *Saturday Night Live* performance (which will be co-hosted by Dave Chappelle) will be as poignant as ever.

3. *Near to the Wild Heart of Life* by Japandroids (Jan. 27, 2017)

Near to the Wild Heart of Life is scheduled to be the third album by seminal new-school indie rock band Japandroids. Japandroids have recently entered the hallowed halls of true indie fame, putting them up there with bands like Arcade Fire and LCD Soundsystem, so the real question is, did their short hiatus allow them to properly regroup for this newest album, or will this be a messy release comparable to *Reflektor*.

4. *Life Without Sound* by Cloud Nothing (Jan. 27, 2017)

Cloud Nothings is a band I've been following since Dylan Baldi started it as a solo-project that was far from the punk set that it currently is. The band's 2012 release *Attack On Memory* served as a welcome re-education on what Cloud Nothings had become and their subsequent release *Here and Nowhere Else* is strong and accompanied one of the liveliest performances I've ever seen. The only downside to this new album, *Life Without Sound*, is that the debut single seems to show that Baldi took the wrong influences away from his recent collaboration with Wavves.

CARTOONS, ETC.

Space Fashion 4 of 5: Galaxy



By Erica Schwarz

Grave Humor



By Stephanie Herrera

Love

By Angela Zhu



Me After The Election

By Anonymous



Students wanted for Cartoons, Etc.!

If you have any questions or have work to submit, please email
cartoons@jhunewsletter.com.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Male birth control study terminated early

By **SABRINA CHEN**
Science & Technology Editor

According to a new study published by the *Journal of Clinical Endocrinology and Metabolism*, male birth control was tested for the first time. A new way of preventing pregnancies, these "birth control shots" were given to sexually active males.

According to the results of a survey sent out by the Guttmacher Institute, 40 percent of all pregnancies worldwide were unintended in the year 2012.

Currently the only forms of birth control for men are condoms, vasectomies and withdrawal. However the study stresses the need for alternative birth control methods to be un-

dertaken by men.

"The study found it is possible to have a hormonal contraceptive for men that reduces the risk of unplanned pregnancies in the partners of men who use it," study co-author Dr. Mario Philip Reyes Festin of the World Health Organization (WHO) in Geneva, Switzerland said according to a press release. "Our findings confirmed the efficacy of this contraceptive method previously seen in small studies."

320 men between the ages of 18 and 45 with normal sperm counts were recruited for the study. Participants also need to be in a monogamous relationship with a female partner between age 18

SEE BIRTH, PAGE B8



TORANGE/CC-BY-4.0/
Researchers tested birth control in the form of an injection for men.

Researchers create explosive-detecting spinach

By **RAYYAN JOKHAI**
Staff Writer

Engineers at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) have repurposed spinach as a form of terrorism-prevention technology.

The researchers have successfully embedded spinach leaves with carbon nanotubes, which turn the plants into detectors that can pick up potential explosives and wirelessly send information to handheld devices such as smartphones.

Engineering efforts that implement electronic systems into more organic environments have been minimal thus far, but this one marks a huge success. Undertaking this effort, the researchers have unlocked a new field that they call "plant nanobionics."

"The goal of plant nanobionics is to introduce nanoparticles into the plant to give it non-native functions," Michael Strano, the Carbon P. Dubbs Professor of Chemical Engineering at MIT and the head of the nanobionics research efforts, said in a press release.

To make the project possible, the research team first had to determine which component of explosives is susceptible to detection by the plants, a complicated process.

The most efficient and applicable choice was a group of chemical compounds known as nitroaromatics which are



ROBERT LYNCH/PUBLIC DOMAIN

Researchers have embedded spinach with nanotubes so that the plant can be a tool to detect explosives.

often used in landmines.

Testing their novel technology, the MIT team found that, when a member of the nitroaromatic family is present in the groundwater naturally sampled by the plant, the embedded carbon nanotubes emit a fluorescent signal.

This signal triggers an infrared camera that can send an email alert about the potential explosive if the camera is connected to a computer.

Strano is interested in the potential applications of nanobionics to preventing pollution and predicting environmental disasters. Two years ago he and a former MIT postdoctoral researcher, Juan Pablo Giraldo, successfully demonstrated

that scientists can use nanoparticles to allow plants' photosynthetic abilities to detect nitric oxide, a pollutant that comes from combustion.

Strano's research team has employed carbon nanotubes to detect hydrogen peroxide and sarin. When the molecule of interest binds to a polymer wrapped around a nanotube, the fluorescence of the tube is altered.

"Plants are very good analytical chemists," Strano said. "They have an extensive root network in the soil, are constantly sampling groundwater and have a way to self-power the transport of that water up into the leaves."

In the new spinach-based study, researchers utilize vascular infusion to embed the sensors for nitroaromatic compounds.

Vascular infusion involves applying a solution of nanoparticles to

a leaf's underside and placing the sensor into the mesophyll, the layer of the leaf where most photosynthetic actions take place.

Some of the carbon nanotubes emit a constant fluorescent signal, which makes it easy to detect an explosive signal. It takes approximately 10 minutes for plants to draw the chemical molecules into their leaves, then the sensor is triggered and the information is relayed.

In order to obtain the data, the MIT engineers use a laser to prompt the nanotubes in the leaf to emit near-infrared fluorescent signals that they can detect with a camera.

However, they can pick up the signal from only a meter away. This distance has been deemed inapplicable to many situations, and the researchers are working to increase the signal distance.

Daylight savings increases depressive episodes

By **NICITA MEHTA**
For *The News-Letter*

Excited for an extra hour of sleep? A recent study suggests that maybe we should reconsider turning back our clocks this November.

The study, conducted by Danish Associate Professor Søren D. Østergaard of Aarhus University Hospital in Risskov, identifies the profound effect of daylight savings on the incidence rate of unipolar depressive episodes.

According to the researchers, the number of people diagnosed with depression rises immediately after transitioning from daylight savings time to standard time.

A collaboration between Aarhus, Copenhagen and Stanford University, this study was initially motivated by observations of the adverse health effects the daylight savings shifts have been catalogued to have. Østergaard's research adds depressive disorders to this list of potential negative side effects of daylight savings that includes reduced efficiency and reduced productivity.

The study was conducted as a time series intervention analysis of data collected from all over Denmark between 1995 to 2012. The researchers performed a comparative study between the incidence rate of unipolar depressive

episodes after transitions to and from summer time.

After an analysis of almost 200 hospital contacts, the researchers noted that "the transition from summer to standard time were associated with an 11 percent increase in the incidence rate."

However, this increase was not associated with a parallel change in the incidence from standard to summer time.

Østergaard specified that it was the transition causing this increase in the depressive episodes and not the change in length of the day or other potentially unfortunate circumstances. He also further explains his findings by concluding that this transition affects the spectrum of possible forms of depression, and not only the severe cases.

Possible future studies stemming from Østergaard's research include understanding the mechanism responsible for this increase in incidence rate of depressive disorders.

Østergaard and his team hypothesize that this may be due to "a negative psychological effect as it very clearly marks the coming of a period of long, dark and cold days" or "distress associated with the sudden advancement of sunset."

A more biological hypothesis points to the disruption of circadian rhythms, which have already been implicated in the case of depressive disorders.

Regardless of the mechanism of this increased incidence rate, Østergaard's research increases awareness of depression and provides a reminder to healthcare professions, families, relatives and friends alike that depression is a complicated disease with multiple possible causes.

Whether it is due to faulty mood regulation by the brain, genetic vulnerability, stressful life events or medications, depression continues to be an enigmatic and difficult disease to recognize, diagnose, and treat.

More often than not, those that experience depression encounter many of these causes that ultimately manifest as depression.

Østergaard's research marks a noteworthy step in the scientific community's attempts to decipher the complexity of depression and continued research may better inform diagnoses and treatments that, currently, are under scrutiny for their lack of effectiveness.

Goldwater awarded to four undergraduates

By **PAIGE FRANK**
Staff Writer

The Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship is national award designed to recognize students with exceptional promise in research in a STEM field. Every undergraduate university in the United States may nominate four undergraduates.

Of the four students nominated by the University for the 2016 year, all four received recognition as well as a \$7,500 scholarship that can be applied to academic tuition, fees, books and room and board.

The Goldwater scholarship was established in 1986 to honor senator Barry Goldwater. The award is believed to provide a competitive edge to students pursuing graduate fellowships in their field.

It awards students by recognizing those with particularly outstanding accomplishments in research. For the 2016 year, approximately 252 awards were given to students chosen from an applicant pool of 1,150.

The four Hopkins students recognized were Vikas Daggubati, Nicole Mihelson, Felipe d'Andrea and Miguel Sobral.

Daggubati is currently a senior at Hopkins majoring in biophysics. He works in Andrew Holland's lab, a lab he first entered as a freshman.

"I knew I planned to apply for the award when I came in freshman year," Daggubati said.

The research that helped him win him the Goldwater award focused on identifying the pathway from cellular mutations in cell's centrosome count to cell death. Beyond graduation Daggubati plans to pursue a M.D./Ph.D.

Nicole Mihelson was the second Hopkins award winner. She is a neuroscience major who also plans to pursue a M.D./Ph.D. in cancer biology. The research that helped win her the Goldwater award focused on glioblastoma multiforme in the Laterra Neuro-Oncology Lab at the Kennedy Krieger Institute. Mihelson plans to use the money from the award for tuition and textbooks.

"I am incredibly grateful to my mentors, Dr. Laterra and Dr. Lopez-Bertoni, for guiding me through the application process, training me, and

SEE AWARD, PAGE B8



TELLMEIMOK/CC-BY-SA-4.0

Recent study finds that depressive episodes increase after daylight savings transitions.

Male birth control has adverse effects

BIRTH, FROM B7
and 38 for at least one year prior to the start of the study.
Injections were given by health professionals every eight weeks for up to 56 weeks. The drugs used to suppress sperm count contained norethisterone enanthate, a long-acting progestogen, and testosterone undecanoate, a long acting androgen.
For the first part of this study, the men and their female partners were told to use traditional forms of birth control while the men received injections. During this phase, a semen sample was taken at eight weeks and then every two weeks until the sperm count was lowered to less than one million per millimeter.

“I had a stroke at 21 and still find a way to take birth control. You can deal with some damn acne.”
— LESLIE CUNNINGHAM, HOPKINS ALUMNA

The drugs were effective in reducing sperm count to this level in 274 out of 320 of the participants. At this point, the researchers instructed couples to discontinue other forms of birth control.

The results of the study showed that the injections were effective in approximately 96 percent of participants, with only four pregnancies occurring in the 111 couples who made it to the end of the efficacy phase of the study.
However, throughout the study participants noted mild to moderate side effects of the hormonal contraceptives such as depression and other mood disorders. Other side effects include injection site pain, muscle pain, increased libido and acne. In total, 1,491 adverse events were taken note of throughout the study; However, nearly 39 percent of these adverse events were concluded to be unrelated to birth control injections.
Recruitment and hormone injections ended in 2011 because one of the review boards were concerned about the high number of reported adverse events. In particular, the rate of depression in the participant group troubled the board — three percent of the men in the study experienced depression.
Comparatively, 30 percent of women report depression while on female birth control according to Elisabeth Lloyd, a faculty scholar at the Kinsey Institute, professor of biology and an adjunct professor of philosophy at Indiana University Bloomington.
“I think it’s kind of funny but not unexpected

that they would discontinue a birth control trial for men because of adverse side effects even though women experience similar side effects while taking female birth control,” Hopkins senior Michael Guo said. “There seems to be a double standard and misogyny at some level.”
By the end of the trial, despite the side effects, more than 75 percent of the participants said that they would be willing to use injection male birth control.
“I would consider using male birth control if my partner did not want to use female birth control or had a latex allergy,” Guo said.
Sophomore public health major Timothy Lee stated that although males should be just as responsible as females for pregnancies, he doesn’t see the need for male contraception due to the effectiveness of condoms. Lee added that he personally would not try the new injection.

“I personally don’t think the hormonal side effects are worth the effects due to other preventative options,” Lee said. “However I believe that it’s a personal decision but that the potential adverse effects should be widely advertised.”
On the other hand, alumna Leslie Cunningham believes strongly that the side effects of the male birth control injection do not outweigh the benefits of the drug.
“This is a topic that is wildly important to me. As someone who ended up in the ICU due to a blood clot in my brain caused by none other than female hormonal birth control, I find it absolutely astounding that clinical trials for a safe and effective form of male contraceptive have recently been halted,” Cunningham wrote in a public Facebook post.
Cunningham added that reported adverse side effects of male birth control such as mood swings, acne and increased/decreased sexual drive are all symptoms that women on birth control suffer those symptoms every single day.

She closed her post with a line addressing males who oppose male birth control injections because of side effects.
“I had a stroke at 21 and still find a way to take birth control. You can deal with some damn acne,” Cunningham wrote.

Fossilized dinosaur brain tissue discovered

By ELAINE CHIAO
For The News-Letter

A fossil hunter in East Sussex, England dug up a seemingly plain and ordinary brown pebble that has now officially been confirmed as fossilized brain tissue from a dinosaur in 2004. Although it took more than a decade for scientists to categorize the fossil, the tissue is the first fossilized dinosaur brain matter that has ever been discovered.

The fossil of dinosaur brain tissue was found by fossil hunter Jamie Hiscock near Bexhill-on-Sea in Sussex. After careful research, scientists decided that the species is most likely related to Iguanodon, a large herbivorous dinosaur that lived during the Early Cretaceous Period about 133 million years ago.

The research on the brain tissue has been published in the *Journal of the Geological Society of London*, which paid tribute to Professor Martin Brasier from the University of Oxford, an active researcher who worked alongside David Norman from the University of Cambridge and ultimately coordinated the research into this particular fossil. Brasier passed away in a car accident in 2014, but that did not stop his colleagues from pursuing their mutual goals in fossil research.

The fossil itself exhibits its various similarities to that of crocodiles and birds, which are species commonly believed

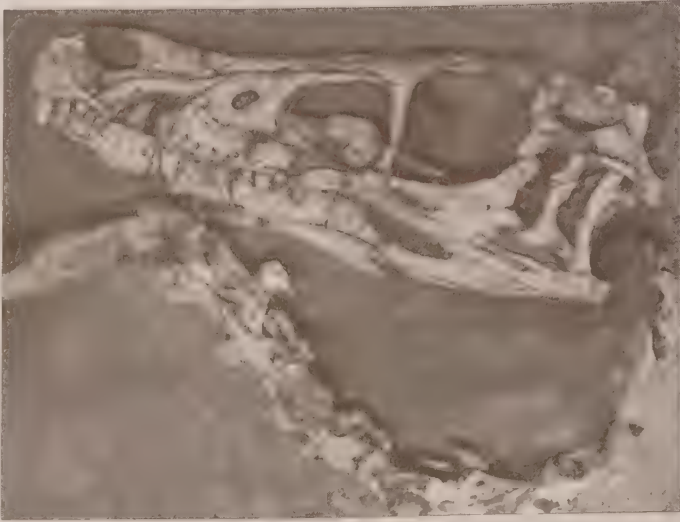
to be associated with dinosaurs. Due to the soft texture of brain tissues, it is often an extremely difficult and meticulous task for scientists and archaeologists alike to find well-preserved fossils that are composed of tissues.

This explains why scientists have not made any significant progress in studying the historical evolution of tissue organs.

“The chances of preserving brain tissue are incredibly small, so the discovery of this specimen is astonishing,” co-author Alex Liu of Cambridge’s Department of Earth Sciences said in a press release.

Liu was one of Brasier’s Ph.D. students in Oxford at the time that studies of the fossil began, and he has stuck with this program throughout its duration.

Liu explained that this specific section of the brain tissue has been so well-preserved only because the dinosaur’s brain was immersed in a highly acidic and low-oxygen body of water shortly after its death. This allowed the



THOMAS VANDENBERGHE/CC-BY-SA-2.0
Researchers have identified a fossil dug up in 2004 as a piece of dinosaur brain tissue.

frail compositions within the tissues to mineralize, and this is the main chemical driving force that slows down most of the decaying process.

Working with colleagues from the University of Western Australia, the researchers from the University of Oxford used a scanning electron microscope (SEM) to identify the meninges, three thin layers of membrane that envelope the brain. Scientists were also able to identify other structures of the dinosaur brain such as blood vessels, tiny capillaries and strands of collagen.

Typical reptiles have brains that are shaped like a sausage. However, the brain itself only occupies about half of the total cranial cavity space. The other half being consists of intricate connections of blood vessels and sinuses, vascular chambers with

thin walls that drains excess fluids.

What came as a big shock for scientists is that the dinosaur brain they observed seemed to occupy a lot more of the cranial cavity space compared to the brains of modern reptiles. A plausible explanation for this phenomenon is that gravity caused the brain to press more tightly against the edges of the brain cavity.

“As we can’t see the lobes of the brain itself, we can’t say for sure how big this dinosaur’s brain was,” Norman said in a press release. “Of course, it’s entirely possible that dinosaurs had bigger brains than we give them credit for, but we can’t tell from this specimen alone. What’s truly remarkable is that conditions were just right in order to allow preservation of the brain tissue — hopefully this is the first of many such discoveries.”

Mitochondria DNA mutations linked to autism



LOUISA HOWARD/PUBLIC DOMAIN
Mitochondrial DNA mutations can occur spontaneously or be inherited from the mother.

By CATHY NIE
For The News-Letter

Studying mitochondrial DNA may be the key to unlocking autism spectrum disorder (ASD) risk. New research suggests that mutations in mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA) may correlate with neurodevelopmental disorders like ASD.

In the study conducted by Cornell University researchers and published in *PLOS Genetics* on Oct. 28, Zhenglong Gu and

his colleagues found a greater number of mitochondrial mutations in 903 children diagnosed with ASD than in their family members. In fact, they discovered that children with ASD, on average, exhibited more than twice as many potentially harmful mitochondrial mutations than their relatives did.

In addition, they observed both mutant and normal DNA sequences residing in the same cells and concluded that muta-

tions could result from either maternal inheritance or spontaneous mutation.

The researchers’ findings seem to suggest there is a genetic relationship between mtDNA and ASD.
In fact, mitochondrial dysfunction may help explain why children diagnosed with ASD suffer from other comorbid conditions. When mitochondria, cell organelles that are essential to metabolism, exhibit abnormalities, metabolic disorders such as amino acid metabolism and cholesterol disorders may develop. Indeed, children diagnosed with ASD generally have a higher prevalence of these disorders.

Gu and his colleagues

also noted that children with a lower IQ and poor social behavior were at the highest risk for harmful mutations that inhibited physical functioning.
The findings of the Cornell study align with previous studies on the relationship between ASD and mitochondrial defects. One 2009 study, conducted by Dr. Richard Kelley, a researcher in the Division of Metabolism at the Kennedy Krieger Institute, showed that mitochondrial complex I is a common cause of regressive autism.
Other studies like “Genetics and Mitochondrial Abnormalities in Autism Spectrum Disorders: A Review,” published in *Current Genomics* in 2011, also indicate that defects in mtDNA can be an indicator of future developmental disorders.
However, the role of mtDNA defects in ASD is unclear.
“Since many neurodevelopmental disorders and related childhood disorders show abnormalities that converge upon mitochondrial dysfunction and may have mtDNA defects as a common harbinger, future research is needed to elucidate the mitochondrial mechanisms underpinning to these diseases,” Gu said in a press release.

Researchers hope that investigating mutated DNA sequences may one day lead to earlier diagnoses and the development of new treatments for similar neurodevelopmental disorders that would target mitochondria.

Student researchers awarded with Goldwater scholarship

AWARD, FROM B7
above all — giving me an example of the physician-scientist I one day hope to become,” Mihelson said.
Senior biomedical engineering major Miguel Sobral conducts research on nano-immunotherapies for glioblastoma. His plans after graduation are to continue work in the field of immuno-

therapy as he pursues his Ph.D.
Senior Felipe d’Andrea, a chemistry major, received an honorable mention from the Goldwater scholarship. Felipe’s work in Professor Craig Townsend’s lab focuses on novel anti-biotic discovery. He will continue to pursue this as he pursues his Ph.D. in biochemistry.

Becoming a Goldwater scholar not only means receiving a monetary scholarship, but also means honor and recognition for hard work and an outstanding contribution to research.
To be eligible to apply, students must be sophomores or juniors who are planning to pursue a Ph.D. or a career in research. All must

first pass a preliminary round — only the four most promising applicants are chosen by the campus committee and nominated by the university into the national competition.
Applicants must also have significant lab research experience, a 3.7 GPA or above and three letters of recommendation. Once the nominees

are chosen, the committee will then offer advice and support for the students’ final proposals.
For those interested in applying for the 2017 Goldwater Scholarship, the deadline for the pre-application form is Dec. 1, 2016. More information on the scholarship, eligibility requirements and deadlines can be found online at fellowships.jhu.edu.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

A new 'moonwalking' virus for neuroscience



Duy Phan
The Brain Wave

An important goal in neuroscience is to figure out how individual neurons connect to each other and how the activity between neural populations translates into neural activity.

To address this goal, we need tools that enable us to label specific neurons with molecules of interest. Such molecules might allow us to see the entire neuron, how it might connect to other neurons or even change the activity of the neuron to determine its function in a specific behavior.

Recently, an article published in the scientific journal *Neuron* has stated that the Karpova Lab at Janelia Research Campus has engineered a new virus tool that can infect axons and travel backwards to the cell body. This opens up new possibilities for understanding neural circuit function.

The adeno-associated virus (AAV) has been a widely important tool for neuroscience. Scientists can package all sorts of genetic material into the AAV, which can then be injected into a specific region in the brain. The AAV will infect the cells of interest and deliver genetic material.

As a result the cell will then express the molecules that we want, such as a fluorescent protein. Moreover AAV is relatively harmless, not toxic to neurons and elicits minimal immune response, making it an ideal vector (or carrier).

Most of the AAVs that are being used in the lab are only capable of anterograde transport. This means that the virus will infect the cell bodies and then spread to the axons. In terms of understanding how neurons connect, this anterograde transport can allow us to determine the output targets of a neuron of interest.

For example, imagine there is neural population A, and we would like to know where popula-

tion A sends its output to. By infecting population A with an AAV to express a fluorescent molecule and following where the fluorescent-labeled axons go, we can figure out the output targets of population A.

But what if we want to know where population A receives input?

Fundamentally, a neuron receives an input from other populations, modifies that input and then sends output information to others.

Tracing the input target is classically done by using dyes and beads that can go inside the axon endings and travel backwards to neural cell bodies (retrograde transport).

Recently, retrograde tracing can also be accomplished using viral vectors such as the rabies virus, yet this method is still hampered by numerous technical challenges.

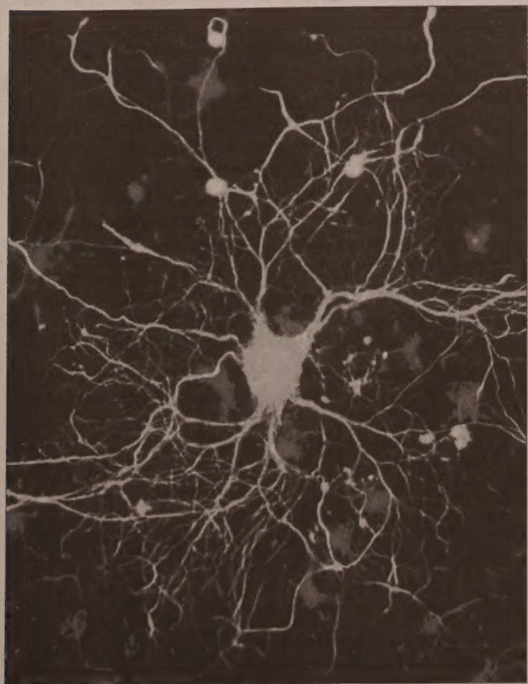
Using a massive screen, the Karpova lab was able to discover variants of the AAV that can undergo retrograde transport. Testing the utility of the new virus for systems neuroscience studies, they were able to use the virus to express different fluorescent molecules in input neurons to the basal pontine. The fluorescent molecules allowed them to track retrograde axon tracts and even image neural activity.

How might this new virus help with systems neuroscience research?

As previously discussed, this virus now makes it much easier to trace the pre-synaptic input to a region of interest. This new virus system also might make it more flexible to control neural activity.

Conventionally, if you wanted to manipulate the activity of a specific population, you would directly excite or inhibit activity of that particular region.

However this can be problematic in that this one region could receive inputs from various different regions of the brain, and each of these inputs can relay different pieces of information that lead to different outcomes. With the newly developed retrograde AAV system, it might therefore be easier to manipulate the activity of a region by exciting or silencing the input targets instead.



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The adeno-associated virus can deliver genetic information to cells.

Adding physicians' assistants cuts hospital costs



REBECCA20162393/CC-BY-4.0

Adding more physicians' assistants to hospital groups can free up physicians' time.

By **SHERRY SIMKOVIC**
For The News-Letter

As health care expenditures rise, policy makers and administrators are scrambling to find ways to cut costs. The results of a recently published study indicate that it's possible for hospitals to decrease expenditures without compromising the quality of patient care by adding more physicians' assistants (PAs).

With the rising costs of health care, hospitalists and dedicated inpatient medical practitioners (including but not limited to doctors, nurses and physicians' assistants) who work exclusively at hospitals are becoming more and more important in big medical centers.

Over 18 months, re-

searchers at the Anne Arundel Medical Center in Annapolis compared two hospital groups: one with more physicians' assistants than doctors (referred to as "expanded") and one with fewer physicians' assistants than doctors (called "conventional").

The expanded PA group had three doctors and three PAs. The PA conventional group consisted of nine doctors and two PAs.

When admitted to the hospital, patients were assigned to one group or the other based on prior arrangements with the patient's primary care doctor.

In the expanded PA group, the PAs cared for 14 patients a day, while in the conventional PA group, the PAs cared for nine patients each day.

Each physician, regardless of the group, cared for around 13 patients each day. To maintain continuity, patients were seen by the same hospitalist as the previous day. In both groups, each PA was paired with a physician who oversaw care.

While PAs were responsible for independent rounding and clinical decision-making, doctors in both groups took primary rounding responsibility for patients with more complex cases. Both groups required an in-person doctor visit at least every third hospital day.

In the expanded PA group almost 36 percent of visits were conducted by a PA, compared to less than six percent in the conventional group.

The researchers also found that the expanded PA group had slightly higher readmissions and inpatient mortality rate

compared to the conventional PA group. These differences, however, were not statistically significant. Rates of consultant use and length of inpatient stay were also found to be similar.

The average cost for each patient was \$2,644 in the expanded PA group and \$2,724 in the conventional group.

"This study shows that the expanded use of well-trained PAs within a formal PA-physician collaboration arrangement can provide similar clinical outcomes with lower costs," Henry Michtalik, the paper's senior author, said according to a press release. "The expanded PA model could free up physicians' time to focus on more complex cases or allow hospitalists to provide additional or different services."

However, since the experiment was only conducted in a single medical center, the researchers urge the scientific community to study the role of PAs in patient care.

"As we address the challenges of an expanding older and more complex patient population in the setting of health care reforms and financial pressures, optimizing the patient care team and outcomes are high priorities," he said. "Support, education and teamwork are essential for any staffing model to be successful."

Apps may help diabetics manage blood glucose

By **WILLIAM XIE**
For The News-Letter

A recent assessment conducted by researchers at Cardiff University has identified a potential solution to self-treating diabetes. The answer is mobile phone applications.

Diabetes is a class of diseases that involves unhealthy levels of sugar or glucose in the blood.

High blood glucose usually occurs when the body has a problem producing insulin, a hormone created in the pancreas that acts to control blood glucose. In the case that insulin is not produced enough or at all, the diabetes is classified as type 1 diabetes. If insulin is not properly used, it is considered type 2 diabetes.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, more than 29 million US adults have diabetes. Type 2 diabetes accounts for about 90 to 95 percent of all diagnosed cases of diabetes.

Effective self-managing solutions must be structured, inexpensive and widely accessible. Mobile apps have potential to meet these criteria.

The final findings of the researchers were based on meta-analysis, the procedure of combining multiple results of studies to formulate a synthesized conclusion. The researchers started by gathering information from a database. Database searching identified 5209 prospective articles. Of the 5209 articles, only 14 studies were eligible and used for the meta-analysis. The 14 studies included 1360 participants, 509 with type 1 and 851 with type 2 diabetes.

12 diabetes apps were analyzed in the compila-

tion of the 14 studies.

The apps helped participants track diet and medication, set reminders, establish meal plans and plan for doctor appointments. Three apps were used for participants with type 1 diabetes and the other nine were used for participants with type 2 diabetes.

For the systematic review, each app's functionality was based on its self-monitoring task, method of data entry, insulin calculator, medication adjustment support, feedback and frequency.

The effectiveness of each app was determined by measuring levels of glycated hemoglobin (HbA1C) in the blood. HbA1C measures reflect how well diabetes is controlled and is generally reflective of the average blood sugar level of the past three months, since the average lifespan of a red blood cell is around four months.

Lower HbA1C levels reflect better blood-glucose control — measurements below six percent are considered normal, between 6.0 to 6.4 percent are considered pre-diabetic and 6.4 percent or above are considered diabetic.

There were mixed results for type 1 diabetes app studies. Two studies found no differences in



MARIUSMB/PUBLIC DOMAIN

Mobile apps are becoming a low cost and convenient way to self-monitor type 2 diabetes.

glycemic control between the participants using the app and the control group. Although two other studies had significant results favoring the implementation of the app, there was a statistically insignificant difference in glycemic control between the apps and control group in these four studies.

The results for the type 2 diabetes app studies uniformly supported the usage of an app. All 10 studies of type 2 diabetes reported a reduction in HbA1C. With an app, participants on average experienced a mean reduction of HbA1C by 0.49 percent.

The extent of the meta-analysis conclusion is limited by uncertainty, study quality and inconsistencies. Factors such as ages, duration of diabetes and countries of study were not consistent. The type 1 diabetes studies had a mean age range of 34 to 36 years and a duration of diabetes of 16 years, whereas the Type 2 dia-

betes studies had much greater mean ages of 51 to 62 years and a duration of five to 13 years.

The quality of the studies was assessed. The type 1 diabetes studies were generally inconsistent. The vast majority of the type 2 diabetes studies was graded as fair quality.

The researchers concluded that apps can be an effective way for type 2 diabetics to self-manage their condition. There was not enough data to formulate a conclusion on the effectiveness of apps for type 1 diabetics.

"As we enter an era where portable technology is increasingly used to improve our lifestyles, as can already be seen with physical activity technology, apps can offer a large percentage of the world's population a low cost and dynamic solution to type 2 diabetes management," Ben Carter, a professional medical statistician from the Cardiff University, said according to a press release.

SPORTS

Early MLB offseason preview, predictions



Daniel Landy
DanLand

The baseball season might be over, but the offseason promises to deliver numerous intriguing stories, as all 30 teams jostle for positioning among baseball's top contenders. It is clear that the World Series champion Chicago Cubs aren't going anywhere, so the other 29 teams had better get to work.

This season, the 10 teams that reached the playoffs were all exceptional in their own respective ways. However, with impending free agents and various holes opening up on their rosters, they each face major questions heading into the offseason.

History has shown that success during one season does not guarantee a playoff berth the following year. In 2016 alone, four of the 2015 season's 10 playoff teams did not play October baseball. The Astros were unable to follow up their breakout campaign in 2015 with another playoff appearance in 2016. The Yankees went into rebuilding mode halfway through the season. The Pirates, with former MVP Andrew McCutchen, suddenly backtracked with their worst season since 2012. Last but not least, the 2015 World Series champion Royals failed to finish above .500.

Let's examine what several of this year's playoff teams must do in the offseason, in order match — or exceed — these performances in 2017.

Let's start on Chicago's north side and examine the revitalized Cubs team, finally free. While they have a solid foundation with their young core, there is still plenty of work to be done if they want a legitimate shot at repeating as champions next season.

The team's two marquee free agents are center fielder Dexter Fowler and closer Aroldis Chapman.

Fowler, of course, al-

most left for the Orioles last offseason, before changing his mind only days before spring training. Fowler is undeniably happy about his decision to return to the Cubs for one more season. The question is whether winning a championship convinced him that Chicago is where he wants to play long-term.

If his post-World Series interviews are any indication, he is definitely not 100 percent sure that he wants to stay and will likely receive offers from several other teams. Whether or not he stays, though, the Cubs should remain confident, since they have twenty-two-year-old Albert Almora Jr. waiting in the wings.

On the other hand, Aroldis Chapman is an irreplaceable talent, since his ability to consistently

throw at such a high velocity is unparalleled by any pitcher in baseball history. Consequently, he will come

with a high price tag, and he probably will not be extremely attached to a team that he played on for only half a season. Multiple teams, including the Nationals and Yankees, are well-positioned to be key players in the market for Chapman. The Cubs need to think carefully before committing serious money to the Cuban closer.

Do not be surprised if they sign a lesser-known relief pitcher or if they wait until next year's trade deadline to determine whether they need to add another arm to their bullpen. While the rest of the roster should remain strong for the Cubs, they still should look to sign another big name to make their team even deeper going forward.

The Cubs' NLCS victims, the Dodgers, also have some important decisions to make regarding their 2017 roster. Two of the team's best players — closer Kenley Jansen

and third baseman Justin Turner — and its two key midseason acquisitions — starting pitcher Rich Hill and outfielder Josh Reddick — will hit the market this winter.

While it is unlikely that the Dodgers bring back all of their free agents, they have the money to bring back a majority of them. Jansen is coming off a season in which he was the National League's best relief pitcher, and Turner has solidified himself as one of the most reliable third basemen in the league.

If the Dodgers are unable to bring back Jansen, watch out for them to get involved in the Chapman Sweepstakes and to go after some other strong arms in order to solidify their bullpen. Beyond re-signing their own free agents, the Dodgers must add another

pitcher to their rotation.

They might try to trade for a pitcher, with Tampa Bay's Chris Archer most likely at the top of their list.

In recent

years, the Dodgers have never been stingy in the offseason; Do not expect this winter to be any different.

Both the Orioles and Blue Jays face the offseason issue of retaining their impact sluggers. In Baltimore, the Orioles need to reach new deals with Mark Trumbo and Matt Wieters, and in Toronto the Jays need to resign José Bautista and Edwin Encarnación.

Baltimore faces a conundrum, since it most likely cannot afford to bring back both Trumbo and Wieters. Trumbo performed extraordinarily well this season, leading all of baseball with 47 home runs.

As good as his hitting was, Trumbo's fielding left a lot to be desired, and at times he was a liability for the Orioles on defense. The Orioles need to decide whether they want to commit serious money to a player who will likely spend most of his time as a

designated hitter.

Unlike the 30-year-old Trumbo, Wieters, also 30, has spent his entire career with the Orioles. He came back to Baltimore for the 2016 season after signing the team's qualifying offer last November, but this year, he will hit the free agent market. Wieters' production has declined recently, and his health has been a big question mark.

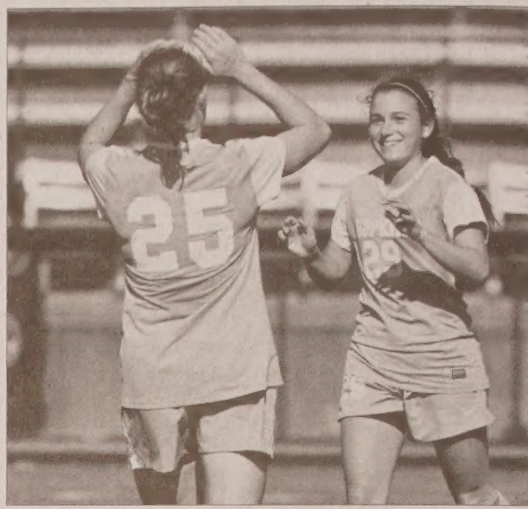
As much as Wieters has meant to the organization in his eight seasons in the majors, it is difficult to see the Orioles breaking the bank and committing to him long-term. In Toronto, Bautista and Encarnación have both profoundly impacted the Blue Jays, but it is very likely that neither will play another home game north of the border. Bautista, 36, is an aging player who started to show durability issues this past season. His batting average and ability to be productive at the plate were also not up to the standard he had set in recent years.

There will be a team that commits excessive money to the veteran outfielder. It is possible that Bautista may be willing to take slightly less money from his current team, but it will be hard for the Jays to pay him big bucks, knowing how many other talented players they will have to re-sign in the future.

With Encarnación, the Blue Jays face a similar issue as they do with Bautista. Encarnación is already 33 years old, and is generally confined to a designated hitter role in the lineup. More importantly, there are widespread rumors that the Red Sox are prepared to make Encarnación the successor to David Ortiz as designated hitter in Boston. The Sox are a first-class organization with plenty of amenities to offer that the Jays cannot match. It is more than likely that Encarnación and Bautista find new homes this winter.

The aforementioned teams are only some of the squads with major decisions to make this winter. It will be interesting to see what new faces are in new places come next year.

W. soccer return as Conference champs



HOPKINSSPORTS.COM
The Blue Jays make their 12th straight NCAA Tournament appearance.

By GAURAV VERMA
Sports Editor

The Hopkins women's soccer team will enter the NCAA D-III Tournament with momentum on their side after emerging triumphant this weekend in the Centennial Conference Championship. On Saturday, they toppled the Swarthmore Garnet 3-1, and the following day they avenged their loss from earlier this season against the McDaniel College Green Terror with another 3-1 win.

Entering competition this past weekend, the Blue Jays stood second in the Conference. Their match against third-seeded Swarthmore was scoreless for much of the first half until freshman midfielder Emily Maheras was given the ball. She was able to capitalize on an opportunity in the 38th minute of the game when senior midfielder Ana Bengoechea sent a corner kick in her direction. Hopkins would take the 1-0 lead thanks largely to senior goalkeeper Clara Aranguren, who turned away a Garnet shot as the half came to a close.

In start of the second half, the Jays quickly doubled their score with a 49th-minute goal from junior Bailey Monaco. The score remained at 2-0 until the 75th minute, when junior Katie Dougherty put Swarthmore on the board with a breakthrough goal, pulling the Garnet within one goal of tying up the game.

The Jays, however, would soon put an end to any of the Garnet comeback hopes. In the 84th minute, senior forward Meg Van de Loo continued her sensational season, finding the net for the 13th straight game and notching her 19th season goal. The goal sealed the game for Hopkins at 3-1. The Jays limited their opponent to just four shots the entire duration of the game.

The Jays triumph over the Garnet, however, came just two weeks after the McDaniel Green Terror brought an end to Hopkins' 11-game win streak, handing Hopkins their lone conference loss on the season. As the Jays advanced in the tournament, they faced the Green Terror for a second time. This time around, the script was flipped.

The Jays topped the number one seed and 13th-ranked team in the country on the road in Westminster, 3-1. While both teams failed to score in the first half, the Jays would come out of the locker room strong, with freshman midfielder Maggie Coulson scoring from 25 yards out two

minutes in. Van de Loo, once again, continued her play and doubled the Hopkins lead with her 20th goal of the season just minutes later.

Coulson would tally her second goal of the game in the 60th minute, capitalizing on a deflected shot from her teammate, sophomore forward Kristen Hori. Also key to the Jays' victory was a strong performance from Aranguren, who stymied McDaniel's offense, notching four saves and allowing just one goal.

After her multi-goal effort, Coulson was named tournament MVP. She attributed the victory against the Green Terror to an improved defensive performance from the regular season.

"By playing the ball more quickly and dropping back when we had to, we fixed a lot of the defensive errors we had in the last game," said Coulson. "Additionally, everyone was working extremely hard off the ball to make sure that we had everything covered after we lost possession."

The wins against Swarthmore and McDaniel are a continuation of the Jays' strong play since a slow 1-1-2 start this season. The team now sits 15-2-2 entering the NCAA tournament and won 14 of their last 15 games. Coulson attributes this to strong teamwork and effort in practice.

"I think we have really come together as a team and clicked well as a unit. Everyone has been working really hard in practice throughout the year and it has definitely carried over to our games, which is why our passing and shape have improved a lot since the beginning of the season," Coulson said.

The Blue Jays will play host to Western Connecticut State in the first round of the NCAA Tournament set for 5 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 12. The winner will take on the victor of the 7:30 p.m. matchup between the Rowan University Profs and the Christopher Newport University Captains on Sunday night at 5 p.m. The second round will also be played at Homewood Field a day later, regardless of whether or not Hopkins advances.

This year marks the 12th straight season in which the Jays have appeared in the NCAA Tournament. Last year, Hopkins disappointingly fell in the first round to Bowdoin College. The year before, they made a riveting run to the final four, but fell in the semifinals.

Water polo loses momentum in weekend matchups

WATER POLO, FROM B12
The Jays with five points, six goals, four steals and three ejections drawn. With 261 career points he ranks 11th in school history.

Senior Giovanni Cragnotti added three points against the Colonials with one goal and two assists and Bret Pinsker contributed a goal of his own.

After defeating the Colonials, the Jays squared off against the Navy Midshipmen in another close Conference matchup on Saturday. Unfortunately, the Jays could not recover quickly enough from the tough fought battle with George Washington University to grab their second consecutive win. Hopkins fell dramatically to their Conference rival after previously defeating the Midshipmen 14-8 in their first Conference game of the season.

The Jays traveled to Annapolis where they encountered a Navy team determined to avenge their prior loss. The Midshipmen dominated from the start, leading the Jays 5-2 in the first quarter. How-

ever, the Jays fought back and tied the game in the second quarter thanks to consecutive Hopkins goals by sophomores Andreas Katsis and Giorgio Cico. The Jays continued to put up points and led the Midshipmen 8-7 heading into the half.

Tension mounted as the score remained tied 9-9 for the majority of the third quarter. Senior Matt Fraser ended the third with a goal to put Hopkins ahead 10-9.

The Jays, however, did not have the stamina to hold off the Midshipmen, who came out firing in the fourth. With back to back goals in the first 29 seconds of the quarter, Navy went up 11-10. In the final minutes, the score remained tied at 13 after two Hopkins goals by Cragnotti and Kurtz. It was the Midshipmen who would have the final say, scoring the last goal of the game to put Navy up 14-13.

Along with his goal in the final quarter, Kurtz handed out two assists, now ranking 12th in university history with 64

career assists. Kurtz commented on the loss and what it means for the team moving toward the postseason.

"We were able to secure a spot in the postseason tournament," said Kurtz. "Although we are upset we lost a game to Navy, we played well as a team and are happy with where we stand for postseason play."

After the loss to Navy on Saturday, the Jays faced their final matchup of the weekend on Sunday at Bucknell University Bison. The 13th-ranked Bison took down the Jays in the last game of the regular season 17-10.

Kurtz carried his success from the game against Navy into the pool on Sunday, scoring both of the Jays' first two goals and keeping Hopkins in a fighting position. The sophomore ended the regular season with 99 career points, just shy of the 100-point milestone. He commented on the areas which the Jays will look to improve for next season.

"We lost a few games

this season in the fourth quarter so we want to make sure we lift and condition a lot and stay in shape for next year," Kurtz said.

Despite the rough loss, the Jays closed out the regular season finishing third in the inaugural season of the Mid-Atlantic Water Polo Conference and securing a spot in the 2016 Mid-Atlantic Water Polo Conference Championship. While the Jays finished the regular season with a losing record of 4-6 in the conference, they are optimistic about the 2017 season.

"If all goes well, we would start next year right off where we finished this year," Kurtz said. "We are a young team with a great group of guys that have good chemistry that we hope to maintain moving forward."

The Blue Jays will compete in their final tournament the weekend of Nov. 18 to end their 2016 campaign. Hopkins will return to Lewisburg, Pa. home of the Bison, to compete in the MAWPC Championship.

SPORTS

Cleveland grapples with curse of LeBron



KEITH ALLISON/CC BY-SA 2.0
LeBron delivered a title to Cleveland, but did he also begin a new curse?

Kristin Yim Sportpinion

LeBron was right: 3-1 leads are spooky. This June the Cleveland Cavaliers came back from a three-game deficit to defeat the Golden State Warriors in the NBA Finals. Then in November, the Chicago Cubs came back from a three-game deficit to defeat the Cleveland Indians and win the World Series.

It is not hard to see the irony in this, as Cleveland has long been the victim of a "sports curse." Before 2016, their last major sports title was in 1964 when the Browns beat the Colts to win the NFL Championship. This was so long ago the term "Super Bowl" did not yet exist and the Colts were located right here in Baltimore. Since then, Cleveland has been known as the city where quarterbacks' careers go to die.

The Cleveland Indians have not had much better luck. Their last World Series championship was in 1948, giving them the longest current drought in all of Major League Baseball, a drought that could have ended this year.

There have been so many sports curses through the years. Well known to sports fans and laypeople alike is the Curse of the Bambino, which kept the Boston Red Sox from a World Series title for 86 years.

The Cubs too had their own "Curse of the Billy Goat," which was placed by the owner of the Billy Goat Tavern after he was asked to leave Wrigley Field due to complaints about the odor of his pet goat. This November, 61 years after the curse was placed in 1945, it was finally broken.

More recently there was Lil B's curse on Kevin Durant. The rapper said Durant, who previously played for the Oklahoma City Thunder, would never win an NBA championship after he called the rapper "wack." This curse was in jeopardy last June when the Thunder were up three games to one against the Golden State Warriors. Sound familiar?

The Warriors came back with a flurry of threes and advanced to face off against LeBron and the Cleveland Cavaliers in the NBA Finals, where they also lost after leading three games to one.

All of these curses have eventually been broken. Even Lil B lifted his curse on KD after he left the Thunder for Golden State. Many thought the Cleveland sports curse was also

lifted this year when LeBron and the Cavs won the NBA championship. Then why was it the Chicago Cubs that won the World Series?

Some may point to the rain delay in Game 7, which gave the Cubs a chance to regroup and take back the lead. Others go back to Game 6, when two Cleveland outfielders collided with each other resulting in a two-run double and an unsettling atmosphere that remained for the rest of the game. My analysis? It's the new curse of LeBron James.

After the Cavs historic comeback, the phrase "3-1" became something of a joke among fans. Signs reading "The Warriors blew a 3-1 lead in the NBA Finals" popping up at College Football games, behind FOX newscasters as they previewed the first presidential debate.

Days before Game 6 of the World Series, at LeBron's annual Halloween party, the elaborate celebration featured "3-1" on the front of a drum set, suggesting the "scary" nature of such a lead. The party also featured cookies in the form of gravestones of two of the Warrior's top players, Stephen Curry and Klay Thompson.

While the careers of both players are indisputably alive and well, the security of a 3-1 lead has undeniably been refuted this year. At the time, the Indians were still up 3-2 and many believed that they would close the deal at Game 6 in front of their home crowd.

LeBron personally attended this game and looked defeated when the Indians trailed 7 to 1 by the fifth inning. A notable development because LeBron has been a vocal Yankees fan all his life. A few days later, the Cubs sealed the deal in an exciting Game 7.

While many suggest the Cubs' tenacity led them to victory, it is much more entertaining to use LeBron's excessive gloating and bandwagoning to explain the turn of events. To Warriors fans, like myself, LeBron ending Cleveland's sports curse — and reviving it all within the same year — heals the hole this year's NBA finals drilled into our hearts.

What makes this all the more sweeter is that LeBron is paying the price. LeBron and former teammate Dwayne Wade, a Chicago native, placed bets on the series and as a result LeBron must wear Cubs gear for his Dec. 2 matchup in against Wad and the Chicago Bulls: a small price to pay for re-igniting an old tradition.

By COURTNEY COLWELL
For The News-Letter

This past weekend, the Hopkins Women's Fencing Team headed to Philadelphia for the 2016 Elite Invitational. The competition was fierce, and the Jays certainly had their work cut out for them facing North Carolina, Northwestern University, University of Pennsylvania, Princeton, Temple and Yale.

Despite disappointing losses across the board, Hopkins was able to walk away with a few key triumphs and excellent individual performances. Most notable was senior épée Katherine Couch's match against Temple in which she garnered her 200th career win.

Remarkably, Couch is one of just nine Hopkins fencers to achieve such a feat, and with her current record it will take just eight more victories for her to move into second place for career épée wins at Hopkins. For this historic performance, Couch is this week's Athlete of The Week.

To say that Couch has an impressive resume would be an understatement. In both her freshman and sophomore seasons, Couch was named to the First Team All-Eastern Women's Fencing Conference (EWFC) and was honored as the EWFC Épée Fencer of the Year.

Additionally, last season she was named to the Second Team EWFC. Throughout her Hopkins career, Couch has been a dominant force, consistently placing in the top 20 at NCAA Regionals.

Following her impressive weekend, Couch sat down in Colwell's Court to discuss the 200 win milestone and share the inside scoop with *The News-Letter* on the Hopkins fencing team.

COLWELL'S COURT: KATHERINE COUCH — FENCING

The News-Letter: 200 career wins is certainly an impressive milestone. How did this accomplishment feel?

Katherine Couch: Honestly, I knew I was getting close, but I did not realize that I was at my 200th win until after the tournament was over. Fencing for the team motivates me more than anything else.

The rush that I get when I am fencing with all my teammates and having all my coaches there to watch gives me so much adrenaline. It pushes me to fence better because I have other people relying on me. Since high school, I have always been more driven by the team's performance than by my own.

N-L: How much of a mental game is it when you are fencing?

KC: It is everything. With five touch bouts, there is limited time to adapt and change your strategy to come back and beat your opponent. Having the mental strength to come back from a deficit is essential.

People will do all kinds of things to get in your head at fencing tournaments — scream in your face, stomp, anything to try to throw you off — it can be extremely difficult to rise above it and stay focused.

This is where you fall back on your training and technique to get you through. But if you are not able to clear your head and focus your emotions in a productive

way, even the best training and technique can fail you.

N-L: When you first started fencing, were you drawn to épée right away, or did you start off with a different sword?

KC: I have fenced French-grip épée since I walked on to my high school team in Montgomery, N.J. as a freshman. It was only because I was tall and it was what my coach told me to do, but now I could not imagine fencing another weapon.

Patience is key in épée, and with my height, I often have the advantage of having a longer reach than my opponents.

Well-timed counter attacks and wrist touches are a couple of my go-to moves.

N-L: How does team dynamic differ across

the foil squad, the épée squad and the sabre squad? Do you guys view yourself as one cohesive team or as three distinct units?

KC: We have always been one team, including the guys as well. The guys are weird, but we are a family, so we accept them. I am lucky to be on a team at Hopkins with such amazing people — it has shaped much of my college experience over the past four years.

Hopkins fencing is such a supportive group of people, and our team bond is far stronger and more positive than that of many D-I schools of similar academic caliber.

N-L: What is the team



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Senior Épée Katherine Couch

looking to improve upon in the next two weeks when the Jays travel to the Columbia invitational?

KC: It is so early in the season right now, and we have only had one team tournament so far, against all D-I schools. The team had a really challenging day on Saturday, but over the next two weeks we will be training hard and working on improving our endurance.

We have some really great fencers on the team, and I believe we have a huge amount of potential.

N-L: What are your personal goals for the remainder of the season?

KC: I really want to improve my strength and my speed, and I could really use some work on improving my explosion. I have been sick for a couple weeks now and have been out of practice, which I really felt on Saturday.

I am extremely excited for the rest of the season, and look forward to putting the work in to make this year a great culmination of my college fencing career.

The News-Letter looks forward to seeing Couch and the Jays back in action on Nov. 18 at the Columbia Invitational.

M. Soccer loses semifinal contest in penalties

M. SOCCER, FROM B12 win, but that's just how the game of soccer goes sometimes," Younker said.

The Diplomats' victory in the semifinals advanced them to compete in the finals of the Centennial Conference Tournament the next day, which resulted in a loss to the Haverford Fords.

The Blue Jays are now 39-24-7 all-time and 3-0-1 in the Centennial Conference Tournament against the Diplomats. Competition has been tight between the two teams, with a single goal deciding the outcome of a game 16 times within the last 16 years.

Saturday's semi-final game also marked the 11th time since 2000 that the Blue Jays and the Diplomats have taken a game to overtime.

The Blue Jays had a successful season. They won eight out of the nine most recent games they played, with the then second-ranked Diplomats being the only team to have defeated them.

Younker noted that this was the best season that the team has had in recent memory, and they have a lot to be proud about heading into the



HOPKINSSPORTS.COM
The Jays lined up before the match against Franklin & Marshall, ultimately coming up just short.

offseason.

"A 12-win season is the best the program has had since 2010," Younker said. "The amount of growth we've shown as a team over the past few months has been unbelievable, and we will only get better in the coming seasons."

Moving forward, the Blue Jays are focused on having a strong offseason to prepare for next year.

"We definitely will be lifting and running a good amount [in the off-season]," Younker said.

"Being in the best shape possible is essential for being a championship team. We need to build the work ethic, skill level and team chemistry that we've already established this season and carry that over into the next."

The Jays will be looking to carry their momentum into next year, as they are set to retain a number of key contributors.

However, they will be without their star striker and all-Conference standout Samy Ramadane, who will be gradu-

ating in the Spring.

Replacing Ramadane's leadership will be vital if the Jays want to build on their semifinal finish in the Centennial and attempt to capture the Conference crown next season.

It will definitely be exciting to watch and see who else emerges for the Jays in 2017. But for now, the athletes will just be looking toward improving their skill set during the off season and keeping up their conditioning by following their training programs.

SPORTS

DID YOU KNOW?

Junior goalie John Wilson was named the Mid-Atlantic Water Polo Conference Defensive Player of the Week. It is his second time being honored with the award this season.

CALENDAR

Friday:
Volleyball vs. Christopher Newport, Fredericksburg, Va.

Saturday:
Football vs. McDaniel: 12 p.m.
W. soccer vs. W. Conn State: 5 p.m.

W. volleyball wins the Conference crown

By GREGORY MELICK
For The News-Letter

This weekend was the annual Centennial Conference Volleyball Championship Tournament. Five teams competed for the automatic bid into the NCAA Volleyball Tournament. After going undefeated in Conference play during the regular season, Hopkins was the #1 seed and therefore was able to host the tournament here at Homewood.

The Jays got a relatively easy win in four sets on Saturday against Muhlenberg College to earn a spot in the championship game on Sunday against the Swarthmore College Garnet, who Hopkins beat in a tightly fought five-set matchup in the regular season.

With such high expectations going into the rematch, it would be hard to live up to the hype, but the Jays did just that and more.

The match started out about as poorly as possible for the Blue Jays. They quickly fell behind 5-1 and were forced to use a timeout to reset. After allowing two more points, including the second service ace of the game from Swarthmore sophomore Sarah Girard, Hopkins turned the game around and went on their own 5-1 run to close the gap to an 8-6 deficit.

From that point on it was a back and forth set, with Hopkins clawing back and eventually tying the score at 18 after a junior outside hitter Elizabeth Wuerstle.

Each time we are on the court, we are growing. We can put a lot in the bank from this past weekend."

- ALLY HIRSCH

Both teams fought hard, but two service errors, the Achilles Heel for the Blue Jays all year, eventually gave the Garnet a 26-24 win.

The second set picked up right where the first left off, with both teams trading punches to get to a 9-9 tie. However, the Jays would go on to score five straight points and go up 14-9 on the Garnet. But the Garnet would not quit.

Swarthmore fought its way back and eventually came out on top at the end of the set, finishing in another close 30-28 battle. For the second set in a row, the Blue Jays could not overcome their four service errors and were just one set away from defeat.

In the third set, the Blue Jays' energy changed, as they fought to go up two sets to none. The team seemed more loose and worked together tenaciously to tighten up some of their mistakes from the first two sets.

The adjustments the Jays made between sets worked, and their new approach allowed them to take the lead by as many as seven points and eventually hold off a late Swarthmore rally to win the set in yet another close 25-22 competition.

Even after a third set win, the Jays had their work cut out for them, as they needed to win two consecutive sets to come back and win. Any questions as to which Hopkins team would show up for the fourth set were quieted quickly.

The Blue Jays rode their momentum from the third set to dominate the Garnet in the fourth. They did not trail once the entire set and led by as many as nine points, winning 25-17 and forcing a decisive fifth set.

Hopkins carried their momentum into the final set, scoring the first six points. From there on it was a straightforward path to the 15-10 win. This was the first time in the history of the championship match that a team came back from losing the first two sets to become the Centennial Conference Champions.

Freshman outside hitter Louisa Kishton had a standout performance, setting career highs for both kills and digs with 20 each. The outstanding achievement earned her tournament MVP honors. Kishton commented on what it was that contributed to her success.

"Trust in my teammates," Kishton said. "I knew someone else would be there backing me up if I made a mistake and that I would be there to back them up as well."

Other top performers for the Blue Jays included Wuerstle, who had 17 kills and 16 digs, and senior captain Ally Hirsch, who added a career high 17 kills of her own. Hirsch explained what changed for the Jays after the second set.

"We came into the match with some nerves, but by the time we got to the third set we were able to shake them off and get back to playing Hopkins volleyball," Hirsch said.

The team will need to shake off those nerves earlier during the coming weeks, when they face much stiffer competition in the NCAA tournament. The Jays' first round matchup will be against 24th ranked Christopher Newport University (CNU). Earlier this season, Hopkins played at Christopher Newport and lost in four sets. However, this was without starting freshman setter Sarah Elnozahy.

The Jays performance against Swarthmore should also help to boost their confidence as they enter the postseason. During the upcoming week, the Blue Jays will prepare for the rematch against CNU.

"Each time we are on the court, we are growing," Hirsch said. "We can put a lot in the bank from this past weekend."

With the newfound confidence, Hopkins looks to make a deep run in the tournament this Friday.

W. soccer dominant in conference title run



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The women's soccer team was dominant in last weekend's Centennial Conference Championship. With a pair of 3-1 wins against Swarthmore and McDaniel, the Jays earned their second straight Conference title, and clinched a spot in the NCAA D-III Championships for the 12th consecutive season. The team was led by senior midfielder Meg Van de Loo and tournament MVP, freshman midfielder Maggie Coulson, who each scored two goals this past weekend.

B10

INSIDE

DanLand: an MLB offseason preview

In this week's edition of DanLand, staff writer Daniel Landy analyzes how playoff teams can build on their success last season.

PAGE B10

The curse of LeBron James

Sportpinion writer Kristin Yim gives details of a new sports curse that has resulted from a series of incredible upsets this year.

PAGE B11

Colwell's Court: Katherine Couch

This week Colwell's Court honors Katherine Couch, a senior on the fencing team, as the Athlete of the Week.

PAGE B11

INSIDE

M. soccer's season comes to heartbreaking end

By ESTHER HONG
For The News-Letter

After a full 90 minutes of play and double overtime, the Blue Jays took the eighth-ranked Franklin & Marshall Diplomats to penalty kicks in the semi-finals of the Centennial Conference Tournament. The final score was 0-0, but the Blue Jays fell short 4-3 in penalty kicks.

"I thought it was a great game with both sides competing and giving it all they had," freshman midfielder and forward Achim Younker said. "We always believed we were the better team, and we proved that by how we played. [We] just couldn't get a goal to get the result."

Offensively, the Blue Jays came out with a strong and steady performance. They totaled 21 shots and 15 shots on goal. In comparison, the Diplomats only tallied 13 shots, six of which were on goal.

"Even though I think we dominated the game offensively, their defense did a great job of holding us off, and they had a number of good chances as well," Younker said.

The Diplomats have

been averaging two goals per game this season, but senior goalkeeper Bryan See and the Blue Jays' strong defensive front kept them off the board for the first 110 minutes of Saturday's game.

See saved five shots in regular play, marking his ninth shutout of the season. He is tied for ninth in most shutouts during a single season in school history. See finished the season with a 0.486 goals against average and an .880 save percentage. He leads the Conference and is ranked third in school history for both and has only allowed nine goals in 18 games and none in the final four games.

The score was still 0-0 after two rounds of overtime, which led to penalty kicks, among the most nerve racking moments in soccer.

Junior co-captain and forward Mike Swiercz shot and succeeded for the Blue Jays' first round of penalty kicks. The Diplomats also scored on their first penalty kick, tying it up at 1-1.

Neither team scored on the second round of penalty kicks, with both goalkeepers successfully

protecting the goal. It was still 1-1 going into the third round of penalty kicks.

In the third round, the Diplomats tallied another score, while the Blue Jays were unable to convert their shot. The Diplomats led 2-1.

Both teams scored in the fourth round, and the Diplomats kept their lead at 3-2.

In the fifth round, senior co-captain and forward Victor Osio scored for the Blue Jays. Defensively, See stopped the Diplomats' junior mid-

fielder Stephen Sherbahn, tying up the game and bringing about a final sudden death round.

In the last round, the Diplomats' senior goalkeeper Dave Reingold made a stop, and the Diplomats were able to convert a decisive goal to seal the 4-3 penalty kicks victory.

Younker shared that despite the loss, he was still immensely proud of the way he and his teammates played. "At the end of the day, we played an amazing game, and I thought we deserved to

M. SOCCER, SEE B11

Water polo clinches spot in the postseason

By EMILIE HOFFER
Sports Editor

Last Friday night was the highlight of the season for the Jays men's water polo team. In their last home game of the year, the Jays defeated the 18th ranked George Washington University Colonials in what turned out to be a riveting contest. The Jays ended the Colonials five-game league winning streak with a 15-10 win at the Newton White Athletic Center, handing the Colonials their second loss in the Mid-Atlantic Water Polo Conference (MAWPS) this season.

The Jays' pulled off the upset after the contest remained tight through the first half. At the end of the first quarter, the Jays led the Colonials 3-2 after freshman attacker Finn Banks scored with 54 seconds left on the clock.

The goal opened a four-goal run by the Jays to open the second quarter. Senior utility Matt Fraser would score the next two goals for the Jays and sophomore utility Giorgio Cico capped off the run, putting the Jays ahead 6-3.

The Colonials answered with three straight goals of their own to tie the game 6-6 with just three minutes left in the half. However, Cico and his fellow sophomore utility Josh Kurtz scored back-to-back goals to give the Jays an 8-6 lead, which they would not relinquish.

The win against the 18th ranked Colonials capped off a commendable four-year career for the three seniors on the team, who combined for seven goals and three assists in their final home game. Matt Fraser led

WATER POLO, SEE B10



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Senior goalie Bryan See's shutout was not enough to secure a win.